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## 115th MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1991

Legislative Document

No. 556

H.P. 382

House of Representatives, February 12, 1991

Reference to the Committee on Education suggested and ordered printed.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Presented by Representative LAWRENCE of Kittery. Cosponsored by Senator ESTES of York and Representative HANDY of Lewiston.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED AND NINETY-ONE

An Act to Improve Eye Care in the Schools.

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## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

**20-A MRSA §7252-B,** as enacted by PL 1987, c. 395, Pt. A, §76, is amended to read:

6 §7252-B. Special education services; approval

The commissioner shall adopt or amend rules to define 8 allowable special education services and the qualifications of 10 individuals who provide special education services, except that the commissioner shall permit treatment of vision problems by means of behavioral training provided by licensed optometrists 12 and reimburse school administrative units for behavioral training consultation and treatment to school-aged children. Each school 14 administrative unit, approved private school or licensed state 16 agency providing special education services shall submit a report at such time and in such form as the commissioner may require. 18

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## STATEMENT OF FACT

24 This bill requires the Department of Education to include the treatment by optometrists of vision problems in elementary 26 and secondary school students by means of behavioral training as an allowable special education service. The department is 28 required to provide reimbursement for consultation and treatment by optometrists in a manner consistent with current special 30 education reimbursement methods.