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Rep. Moses Thoughts on Proposed Optometry Rule

The Assembly Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care partially objected to [Clearinghouse Rule 23-040](#) relating to continuing education for optometrist. Rep. Moses (R-Menomonie) released the following statement:

“Our health professionals want to spend their required continuing education time on learning about new techniques, technological advancements, and medical information to better serve their patients. Nowhere in state statute does the legislature direct Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) and give authority to optometry board to use continuing education to promote cultural competency and diversity training. Continuing education is for advancing practitioners skills and knowledge, not some political DEI training.”

“The legislature has made it a priority to combat the prescription drug and substance abuse epidemic in our state by passing legislation and providing funding. Overdose deaths from prescription drugs in Wisconsin are on the rise. However, DSPS wants to cut in half the number of hours for learning responsible prescribing of controlled substances for optometrist. DSPS is showing they do not take the issue of opioid abuse seriously, and are more concerned with ideology than saving Wisconsin lives.”

“This partial objection is part of the legislative review for clearinghouse rules. Our job as legislators is to make sure agencies and boards stay focused on subject matter and operate within their authority when creating administrative rules. DSPS’ Optometry Continuing Education rule, CR23-040, was an overstep.

With the partial objection, we are showing DSPS that the legislature stands firmly with medical fact and knowledge in practice, not political indoctrination, on continuing education requirements for all health care providers.”

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The 29th Assembly District includes majority of Dunn and portions of St. Croix and Polk Counties including the communities of Baldwin, Boyceville, Clear Lake, Colfax, Elk Mound, Glenwood City, Menomonie, and Woodville.