- 1 HB323
- 2 118560-2
- 3 By Representatives McClendon, Clouse, Barton, Millican, Ward
- 4 and Hill
- 5 RFD: Health
- 6 First Read: 19-JAN-10

1	<u>ENGROSSED</u>
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	To amend Section 27-56-4 of the Code of Alabama
9	1975, the Access to Eye Care Act, relating to health insurance
10	policies, plans, or contracts which provide third-party
11	payments for eye care services, to further regulate certain
12	conditions related to participation in the health insurance
13	plans.
14	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
15	Section 1. Section 27-56-4 of the Code of Alabama
16	1975, is amended to read as follows:
17	<b>"</b> §27-56-4.
18	"An insurance policy, plan, or contract providing
19	for third-party payment or prepayment of health or medical
20	expenses shall not do any of the following:
21	"(1) Impose a practice restriction for optometrists
22	which is inconsistent with or more restrictive than provided
23	by law.
24	"(2) Discriminate between classes of eye care
25	providers with respect to any covered service which falls
26	within the scope of the eye care provider's license.

1	"(3) Require an eye care provider to hold hospital
2	privileges as a condition of participation in or receiving
3	payment from the policy, plan, or contract.

- "(4) Impose any restriction not required by law based on the eye care provider's professional degree.
- "(5) Discriminate between eye care providers in connection with the amount of reimbursement for the provision of the same services.
- "(6) Require an eye care provider to purchase or maintain a minimum quantity or minimum dollar amount of a specified brand of ophthalmic materials as a condition of participation in or receiving payments from a policy, plan, or contract."
- Section 2. This act shall not apply to any insurance policy, plan, or contract in effect on the effective date of this act.
- Section 3. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives
4 5 6 7	Read for the first time and referred to the House of Representatives committee on Health 19-JAN-10
8 9 10 11	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar with 1 substitute and 17-FEB-10
12 13 14	Read for the third time and passed as amended
15 16 17 18	Greg Pappas Clerk