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**Health Care & Wellness Committee**

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**HB 1397**

**Brief Description:** Concerning the delegation of authority to registered nurses.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Moeller, Ericksen, Cody, Green, Hinkle, Morrell, Bailey, Williams, Nelson and Wood.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Allows a registered nurse to administer medications, treatments, tests, and inoculations, at the direction of an "optometric physician."

**Hearing Date:** 1/30/09

**Staff:** Jim Morishima (786-7191)

**Background:**

A registered nurse is a person who performs acts requiring substantial specialized knowledge, judgment, and skill based on the principles of the biological, physiological, behavioral, and sociological sciences in:

- the observation, assessment, diagnosis, care or counsel, and health teaching of individuals with illnesses, injuries, or disabilities, or in the maintenance of health or prevention of illness in others;
- the performance of acts requiring education and training that are recognized by the medical and nursing professions as proper and that are authorized by the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission;
- the administration, supervision, delegation, and evaluation of nursing practice;
- the teaching of nursing; or
- the execution of medical regimen as prescribed by certain health care professionals.

A registered nurse may administer medications, treatments, tests, and inoculations, if within his or her scope of practice, at the direction of a licensed physician and surgeon, dentist, osteopathic

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physician and surgeon, naturopathic physician, podiatric physician and surgeon, physician assistant, osteopathic physician assistant, or advanced registered nurse practitioner.

**Summary of Bill:**

A registered nurse may administer medications, treatments, tests, and inoculations, at the direction of an "optometric physician."

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.