

From: Leigh MacManus
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2004 6:46 PM
To: CONTACTLENSRULE
Subject: Fairness to Contact Lens Consumers Act of 2003

I wish to voice my opinion about the above referenced Act and tell you why. I feel that is very important that anyone needing any kind of prescription (be it for contact lenses, eyeglasses, or even drugs) should have the right to receive the written prescription in order that they might have it filled wherever they so choose. I have worn prescription contact lenses for over 40 years and thru those years it has almost always been expected of me that wherever I had the eye exam I would also have them fill the prescription. I felt as if I had no choice but to have it handled that way. However, in the last several years I have requested to receive my paperwork and when they did give it to me I often went elsewhere to get my lenses. This was to my benefit because I was able to shop for the best deal plus feel that I was in control of the process. It worries me to think that I might have that right taken away from me by eye doctors who for their own monetary purposes want to control the process for me. If they say they are worried that harm will come to us and our eyesight because a prescription is improperly filled by someone else what they mean is that they don't want to be held accountable. All they need to do is have the patient sign a release form and that will not be a problem. My current optometrist does just that and gives me my prescription no questions asked.

I strongly protest the revocation of the above referenced Act in any way and hope that I along with all others who have eyesight that requires correction, etc. can make our own decisions about our prescriptions. We are allowed to go to whatever eye doctor we want to – so why shouldn't we be allowed to choose whatever facility we want to fill our scripts?

Thank you, Leigh MacManus