

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 3473

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that only licensed medical doctors and licensed doctors of osteopathy may perform eye surgery at Department of Veterans Affairs facilities or under contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 6, 2003

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. JANKLOW, Mr. KELLER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. STEARNS, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. COOPER, Mr. GREEN of Texas, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. SNYDER, and Mr. STRICKLAND) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

---

## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide that only licensed medical doctors and licensed doctors of osteopathy may perform eye surgery at Department of Veterans Affairs facilities or under contract with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Veterans Eye Treat-  
5       ment Safety (VETS) Act of 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION AS TO PERSONS WHO MAY PERFORM**  
2 **EYE SURGERY FOR DEPARTMENT OF VET-**  
3 **ERANS AFFAIRS.**

4 Section 1707 of title 38, United States Code, is  
5 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-  
6 section:

7 “(c)(1) Eye surgery at a Department facility or under  
8 contract with the Department may be performed only by  
9 an individual who is either a licensed medical doctor or  
10 a licensed doctor of osteopathy.

11 “(2) For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘eye  
12 surgery’ means any procedure involving the eye or the  
13 adnexa in which human tissue is cut, burned, frozen, va-  
14 porized, ablated, probed, or otherwise altered or pene-  
15 trated by incision, injection, laser, ultrasound, ionizing ra-  
16 diation, or by other means, in order to treat eye disease,  
17 alter or correct refractive error, or alter or enhance cos-  
18 metic appearance. Such term does not include removal of  
19 superficial ocular foreign bodies or the prescription and  
20 fitting of contact lenses for the purpose of altering refrac-  
21 tive error.”.

○