

## **SUMMARIZING HOW THE OPTOMETRY PROPOSAL MEETS THE CREDENTIALING REVIEW CRITERIA**

### **Criteria 1 & 2**

- Access to SLT, a front line treatment for glaucoma, is currently limited.
- Public welfare will benefit because the proposal will increase access to this care.
- Patients will benefit from incurring less travel and having more choice of providers.
- Health care costs will be reduced through fewer redundant appointments.

### **Criterion 3**

- This proposal mirrors what is already allowed in 9 other states. Despite what opponents say *could* happen, there is no data or evidence that indicates any “evident danger” has resulted from this enhanced scope of practice in those states.
- Independent studies validate that SLT has low rates of adverse events.
- Nebraska optometrists have been treating glaucoma and managing complications that can occur with SLT since 1998.

### **Criterion 4**

- This proposal is about education and training of optometrists, not ophthalmologists.
- Proposed education and training will be identical to, if not greater than, what is required in 9 other states that allow this authority.
- There is no data or evidence that indicates that education and training has failed to adequately prepare optometrists in those 9 states for performing this procedure.

### **Criterion 5**

- Proposed post-professional education and training will be identical to, if not greater than, what is required in 9 other states that allow this authority.
- There is no data or evidence that indicates this optometric post-professional education and training has not been adequate in those states.

### **Criterion 6**

- Providers will be subject to the Uniform Credentialing Act.
- The new credential required for proposed new authority will assure successful completion of additional competency measures.
- There is no data or evidence that would indicate Nebraska’s current regulatory structure for the profession would be unable to take action against providers relative to this new authority.