### **Health Care Market Oversight**

# **VSP Optical and Eyemart Express**

The <u>Health Care Market Oversight</u> (HCMO) program reviews heath care business deals to make sure they support Oregon's goals of health equity, lower costs, increased access, and better care. On December 17, 2024, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) accepted a complete notice of material change describing plans for VSP Optical to buy Eyemart Express.

#### Who's involved?

**VSP Optical** is a subsidiary business of Vision Service Plan (VSP), a vision health insurance company. VSP Optical is a holding company for VSP's vision and optical related companies, including retail and online sales of corrective eyeglasses and contact lenses. VSP Optical currently sells corrective eyewear in Oregon via VisionWorks retail stores and Eyeconic, an online retailer.

**Eyemart Express** is an optical retailer that operates throughout the US and is headquartered in Texas. Eyemart operates 250 retail stores in 42 states, including four Oregon locations in Medford, Eugene, Bend, and Roseburg. Eyemart Express also sells corrective eyewear online to customers in Oregon, and subleases space to optometrists to provide eye exams.

#### About the deal

VSP Optical is proposing to acquire Eyemart Express. VSP Optical states that the transaction will allow Eyemart Express stores to continue offering a wide range of optical products and providing reliable access to optometric care in local communities. VSP Optical states they do not expect any material changes in services, workforce, or Eyemart Express locations in Oregon as a result of this transaction.

#### What's next?

OHA is reviewing this deal to understand how it could affect access to care for communities in Oregon. During the review, OHA will use health care data, news and media reports, information from the entities, and public input to decide whether the deal should be approved. After completing a review, OHA will issue a decision about whether the deal may proceed as planned.

## We want to hear from you!

Public input helps us understand how this deal could help or harm people in your community. To share your thoughts about this deal, please email <a href="https://hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov">hcmo.info@oha.oregon.gov</a>, leave a voicemail at 503-945-6161, or <a href="mailto:fill out the public comment form">fill out the public comment form</a>. In your comment, mention "VSP", what you think, and whether you support or oppose the deal.

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