

**SENATE BILL NO. 78 am H**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Amended: 4/11/00

Introduced: 2/18/99

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 "An Act relating to the use and prescription of pharmaceutical agents in the  
2 practice of optometry."

3 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

4 \* **Section 1.** AS 08.72.175(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) The board may issue a license endorsement authorizing a licensee to  
6 prescribe and use the pharmaceutical agents described in AS 08.72.272, if the licensee  
7 or applicant for a license passes the written and practical portions of an examination  
8 on ocular pharmacology, approved by the board, that tests the licensee's or the  
9 applicant's knowledge of the characteristics, pharmacological effects, indications,  
10 contraindications, and emergency care associated with the prescription and use of  
11 pharmaceutical agents. The endorsement expires at the same time as the license to  
12 which it attaches. The endorsement may be renewed upon satisfactory completion of  
13 continuing education requirements established by the board by regulation. **The board**  
14 **shall solicit the recommendations of the State Medical Board concerning the**

1 written and practical examination required under this subsection and concerning  
2 the continuing education requirements that should be applicable to licensees with  
3 endorsements under this subsection.

4 \* Sec. 2. AS 08.72.272(a) is amended to read:

5 (a) A licensee may prescribe and use a pharmaceutical agent, including a  
6 controlled substance, in the practice of optometry if

7 (1) the pharmaceutical agent is not included on schedule IA or IIA  
8 under AS 11.71;

9 (2) the pharmaceutical agent is related to the diagnosis and  
10 treatment of [A DRUG TOPICALLY APPLIED TO] the human eye and its  
11 appendages, including the treatment of anaphylaxis; and

12 (3) [(2)] the person holds a license endorsement issued by the board  
13 authorizing the prescription and use of pharmaceutical agents.