

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 244(RLS)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/20/02

Referred: Today's Calendar

Sponsor(s): SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BY REQUEST OF THE LEGISLATIVE BUDGET AND
AUDIT COMMITTEE

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act extending the termination date of the Board of Examiners in Optometry; and**
2 **relating to optometrists."**

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

4 * **Section 1.** AS 08.03.010(c)(14) is amended to read:

5 (14) Board of Examiners in Optometry (AS 08.72.010) -- June 30,
6 **2006** [2002];

7 * **Sec. 2.** AS 08.72.150 is amended to read:

8 **Sec. 08.72.150. Application for examination and issuance of license.** An
9 applicant shall apply for the examination by filing an application with the department
10 together with the examination fee by the deadline established by the department in
11 regulations. **The department may require the applicant to submit a photograph**
12 **of the applicant for its files; however, the photograph may not be forwarded with**
13 **the application to the board for review.** Upon successful completion of the
14 examination by the applicant and payment of the license fee, the board shall issue a

license to the successful applicant. The applicant may practice optometry in the state upon receipt of the license.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.72.160(a) is amended to read:

(a) The examination **must** [SHALL BE WRITTEN, PRACTICAL, AND ORAL IN NATURE. THE WRITTEN PORTION OF THE ALASKA EXAMINATION SHALL] consist of **two sections: (1) all or part of a national or international examination designated by regulation by the board; and (2) an examination approved by the board that is designed to test the applicant's knowledge of the laws of Alaska governing the practice of optometry and the regulations adopted under those laws** [. THE ORAL PORTION OF THE EXAMINATION SHALL BE RECORDED AND RETAINED FOR TWO YEARS].

* **Sec. 4.** AS 08.72.170 is repealed and reenacted to read:

Sec. 08.72.170. Licensure by credentials. The board shall issue a license by credentials to an applicant who

(1) has had education equivalent to four years of attendance at a state high school;

(2) is a graduate of a recognized school or college of optometry;

(3) has passed a written examination approved by the board that is designed to test the applicant's knowledge of the laws of Alaska governing the practice of optometry and the regulations adopted under those laws;

(4) holds a current license to practice optometry in another state or territory of the United States or in a province of Canada;

(5) at some time in the past, received a license to practice optometry from another state or territory of the United States or from a province of Canada that required the person to successfully complete an examination in optometry;

(6) was engaged in the active licensed clinical practice of optometry in a state or territory of the United States or in a province of Canada for at least 3120 hours during the 36 months preceding the date of application under this section;

(7) has not committed an act in any jurisdiction that would have constituted a violation of this chapter or regulations adopted under this chapter at the time the act was committed; and

(8) has not been disciplined by an optometry licensing entity in another jurisdiction and is not the subject of a pending disciplinary proceeding conducted by an optometry licensing entity in another jurisdiction.

* **Sec. 5.** AS 08.72.181(d) is amended to read:

(d) Before a license may be renewed, the licensee shall submit to the board evidence of **24** [48] hours of postgraduate continuing education instruction as prescribed by regulations of the board. The board may specify by regulation those circumstances under which the requirements of this subsection may be waived.

* **Sec. 6.** AS 08.72.191 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.72.191. Fees. The department shall set fees under AS 08.01.065 for the following:

- (1) examination;
- (2) reexamination [FOR THE WRITTEN PORTION];
- (3) **licensure by credentials** [WAIVER OF EXAMINATION];
- (4) license;
- (5) renewal;
- (6) branch office license and renewal.