

Please distribute to all members
of the House Labor & Commerce Cmte

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After reading S.B. 193 and H.B. 245 it would seem there is little value in protecting the public's visual well-being.

Reasons:

1. Board Authority to approve schools-
All 18 U.S. teaching schools of optometry issue a Dr. of Optometry degree and all are accredited.
2. The Board of Optometry may give a restricted license to practice.
There are 20 licenses that do not hold the highest certification of practice. I am not aware of any demonstrated record that shows a license of these 20 is a threat to the public visual well-being; rather this allows the board to put an existing license out of practice.
3. Putting C.E. course requirements in statute-
Not a good idea. Technology and practice procedures change rapidly.

What appears to be the intent of these two bills is to get in stature the authority for the Board of Optometry to function in an arbitrary and capricious manner.

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