

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 270(L&C)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 2/19/02  
Referred: Finance

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 Dispensing Opticians; relating**  
2 **to the regulation of dispensing opticians; and providing for an effective date."**

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

4 **\* Section 1.** AS 08.03.010(c)(9) is amended to read:

5 (9) Board of Dispensing Opticians (AS 08.71.010) -- June 30, **2005**  
6 [2002];

7 **\* Sec. 2.** AS 08.71.055 is amended to read:

8 **Sec. 08.71.055. Powers and duties.** The board shall have the following  
9 powers and duties:

10 (1) to [EXAMINE AND] issue licenses to applicants;

11 (2) to renew licenses;

12 (3) to hold hearings and order disciplinary sanctions against a person  
13 who violates this chapter or the regulations of the board;

14 (4) to supply forms for applications, licenses, and other needed

1 documents;

2 (5) to keep a record of all proceedings open to the public, including the  
3 name of each **license** applicant [FOR EXAMINATION] and each licensee;

4 (6) to enforce the provisions of this chapter and adopt or amend  
5 regulations necessary to make these provisions effective.

6 \* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.71.080 is amended to read:

7 **Sec. 08.71.080. License required.** A person may not act as a dispensing  
8 optician in the state unless the person is licensed under this chapter. [IN ORDER TO  
9 BE LICENSED UNDER THIS CHAPTER, A PERSON SHALL PASS AN  
10 EXAMINATION GIVEN BY THE BOARD UNLESS THE PERSON IS ELIGIBLE  
11 FOR LICENSING WITHOUT EXAMINATION UNDER AS 08.71.145.] A license  
12 shall be issued for (1) the dispensing of contact lenses, or (2) the dispensing of other  
13 lenses, eyeglasses, spectacles, artificial eyes, and their appurtenances, or (3) both. The  
14 board shall by endorsement on the license designate for which aspect of dispensing  
15 opticianry the license is issued. [THE BOARD SHALL LICENSE SUCCESSFUL  
16 EXAMINEES.]

17 \* **Sec. 4.** AS 08.71.090 is repealed and reenacted to read:

18 **Sec. 08.71.090. Examination requirement.** To be licensed to dispense  
19 contact lenses, a person, unless eligible for licensing under AS 08.71.145, shall  
20 document to the board that the person has passed the contact lens registry examination  
21 offered by the National Contact Lens Examiners with a score acceptable to the board.  
22 In order to be licensed to dispense other lenses, eyeglasses, spectacles, artificial eyes,  
23 and their appurtenances, a person, unless eligible for licensing under AS 08.71.145,  
24 shall document to the board that the person has passed the national opticianry  
25 competency examination offered by the American Board of Opticianry with a score  
26 acceptable to the board. An applicant for licensure in both areas shall document  
27 having received a score acceptable to the board on both examinations. The board  
28 shall, by regulation, establish the scores that will be acceptable for the examinations  
29 described in this section.

30 \* **Sec. 5.** AS 08.71.110 is amended to read:

31 **Sec. 08.71.110. Qualifications for licensure [OF APPLICANTS FOR**

1 **EXAMINATION].** (a) **The board may issue a license to a** [A] person [IS  
2 ENTITLED TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION] who

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

5 (2) has either

6 (A) completed at least **3,000** [6,000] hours of training as an  
7 apprentice after registering with the department as an apprentice; or

8 (B) been engaged for at least **3,000** [6,000] hours as a  
9 practicing optician in good standing in a state, territory, district, or possession  
10 of the United States; [AND]

11 (3) **has passed the applicable examination required under**  
12 **AS 08.71.090 with a score acceptable to the board; and**

13 **(4)** has paid the required **license** [EXAMINATION] fee.

14 (b) Graduation from an associate degree program in a recognized school or  
15 college of opticianry may be substituted for [4,000 OF] the [6,000 HOURS OF]  
16 experience required by (a)(2) of this section.

17 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 08.71.120 is amended to read:

18 **Sec. 08.71.120. Fees.** The department shall set fees under AS 08.01.065 for  
19 [EXAMINATION,] initial license [,] and license renewal.

20 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 08.71.130(c) is amended to read:

21 (c) If the license remains lapsed for more than one year, the board may require  
22 the applicant to **retake and successfully pass again the applicable examination or**  
23 **examinations required** [BE EXAMINED] under AS 08.71.090.

24 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 08.71.145 is amended to read:

25 **Sec. 08.71.145. Licensure by credentials.** A person with a valid license as a  
26 dispensing optician from another state, territory, district, or possession of the United  
27 States with licensing requirements substantially equivalent to or higher than those of  
28 this state shall be issued a license **under this chapter** [WITHOUT EXAMINATION]  
29 for those professional areas in which the person is licensed **in the other jurisdiction**  
30 upon payment of any fee and documentation that the board may require by regulation.

31 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 08.71.100 is repealed.

1     \* **Sec. 10.** This Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).