

Introduced: 3/17/69  
Referred: Health, Welfare  
and Education and Commerce

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1 IN THE HOUSE

BY BEIRNE

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HOUSE BILL NO. 304

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IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

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SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

5

A BILL

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For an Act entitled: "An Act relating to the practice of optometry."

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

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\* Section 1. AS 08.72.090 is amended to read:

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Sec. 08.72.090. RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS. The Department of Commerce

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[SECRETARY] shall keep a record of all proceedings, including the name

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of each applicant for examination and registration. These records shall

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be open for public inspection.

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\* Sec. 2. AS 08.72.120 is amended to read:

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Sec. 08.72.120. REGISTRATION. (a) It is unlawful for a person to

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practice, or attempt, or offer to practice, optometry without first

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obtaining a certificate of registration from the board, and without fil-

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ing the certificate with the clerk of the superior court in each

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judicial district in which he practices.

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(b) Registration of a branch office may be obtained from the board

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under provisions of the regulations adopted by the board.

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\* Sec. 3. AS 08.72.140 is amended to read:

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Sec. 08.72.140. QUALIFICATIONS FOR EXAMINATION. The board shall

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admit to the examination a person who furnishes proof that

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(1) he is at least 21 years of age [AND OF GOOD CHARACTER];

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(2) he has normal color perception and a visual acuity of a

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standard known as 20/40 in at least one eye;

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(3) he is not afflicted with a contagious or infectious

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disease;

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(4) he has had education equivalent to four years attendance

1 at a state high school;

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

4 (6) he is of good moral character.

5 \* Sec. 4. AS 08.72.150 is amended to read:

6 Sec. 08.72.150. APPLICATION FOR EXAMINATION AND ISSUANCE OF  
7 CERTIFICATE. An applicant shall apply for the examination by filing an  
8 application with the department [SECRETARY] together with the examina-  
9 tion fee at least 15 days before the examination. Upon successful  
10 completion of the examination by the applicant and payment of the fee,  
11 the board shall issue a certificate of registration as a licensed  
12 optometrist to the applicant. After the applicant has properly filed  
13 his certificate of registration he may practice optometry in the state.

14 \* Sec. 5. AS 08.72.160 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

15 Sec. 08.72.160. EXAMINATION. (a) The examination shall be  
16 written, practical and oral in nature.

17 (b) An applicant who fails two portions or less of the examination  
18 may take a re-examination in the portions he fails without paying an  
19 additional examination fee.

20 \* Sec. 6. AS 08.72.170 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

21 Sec. 08.72.170. ISSUANCE OF CERTIFICATE BY WAIVER OF WRITTEN  
22 EXAMINATION. (a) The board shall waive the written portion of the  
23 examination and grant a certificate to practice optometry to an appli-  
24 cant who:

25 (1) meets the qualifications of sec. 140 of this chapter;

26 (2) holds a current license by examination in another state,  
27 territory or foreign country and has been established in ethical opto-  
28 metric practice for at least three years prior to application, or shows  
29 satisfactory evidence of having passed the written portion of the

1 examination given by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry; and

2 (3) has not had a certificate or license revoked for cause  
3 in any state, territory or foreign country.

4 (b) No waiver of the practical or oral portions of the examinations  
5 may be given.

6 \* Sec. 7. AS 08.72 is amended by adding a new section to read:

7 Sec. 08.72.181. RENEWAL OF LICENSE. (a) The department shall  
8 renew biennially, on January 1, all licenses to practice optometry;  
9 except that an optometrist in the military service of the United States,  
10 while in the discharge of his official duties, is exempt from payment of  
11 renewal fees but he shall maintain his eligibility to practice in the  
12 state by registering his name and place of residence with the department.

13 (b) The application shall contain the name, office and post office  
14 address, date and number of the license of the registered optometrist,  
15 and any other information that the board may require.

16 (c) Before a license may be renewed a licensee shall submit to the  
17 board evidence of 24 hours of post graduate education prescribed by  
18 regulations of the board.

19 (d) A license which is not renewed by January 1 lapses. A \$10  
20 penalty shall be charged for renewal of a license which remains lapsed  
21 for more than 60 days.

22 \* Sec. 8. AS 08.72.190 - 220 are repealed.

23 \* Sec. 9. AS 08.72 is amended by adding a new section to read:

24 Sec. 08.72.191. FEES. The following fees shall be imposed under  
25 this chapter when applicable:

- 26 (1) examination fee.....\$35
- 27 (2) waiver of examination fee.....\$25
- 28 (3) certificate fee.....\$25
- 29 (4) biennial renewal fee.....\$50

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(5) branch office biennial registration fee.....\$50

\* Sec. 10. AS 08.72.230 is repealed and re-enacted to read:

Sec. 08.72.230. FEES AND DISBURSEMENTS. The department shall collect all fees and keep a record of each transaction, and shall remit to the Department of Revenue all money received.

\* Sec. 11. AS 08.72.300 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(5) "recognized school or college of optometry" is one which is approved by the American Optometric Association or one of its committees;

(6) "department" means the Department of Commerce.