

Original sponsor: Commerce Committee

Offered: 4/14/78
Referred: Judiciary

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 664

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 TENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 A BILL

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

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

8 * Section 1. AS 08.72.300(2) and (3) are amended to read:

9 (2) "optometry" is the employment of means or methods [,
10 OTHER THAN THE USE OF DRUGS,] for the diagnosis of an optical deficiency
11 or deformity, visual or muscular anomaly of the human eye, or the pre-
12 scription or application of lenses, prisms or ocular exercises for the
13 correction or relief of the human eye;

14 (3) "practicing optometry" means the diagnosis [, BY MEANS OR
15 METHODS OTHER THAN THE USE OF DRUGS,] of an optical deficiency or defor-
16 mity, visual or muscular anomaly of the human eye, or the prescription
17 of lenses, prisms or ocular exercises for the correction or relief of
18 the human eye, or the holding of oneself out as being able to do so;

19 * Sec. 2. AS 08.72 is amended by adding a new section to read:

20 Sec. 08.72.305. USE OF DRUGS FOR DIAGNOSIS. (a) No person prac-
21 ticing optometry may use drugs for diagnostic purposes unless he has

22 (1) passed the board's examination on the subject of pharma-
23 cology as it relates to optometry and the use of topically applied
24 drugs; and

25 (2) completed courses and clinical experience approved by the
26 board and offered by a recognized and accredited school or college of
27 optometry and passed an examination, given by that school or college,
28 which relates to topical application of drugs to the eye.

29 (b) No person practicing optometry may administer drugs except for

1 recognition of pathology and diagnosis of a vision anomaly.

2 (c) Topical anesthetics, mydriatics, and cycloplegics may be used
3 by a person practicing optometry under conditions approved by the board;
4 the board may authorize the use of myotics for emergency purposes only.

5 * Sec. 3. AS 08.72.020 is amended to read:

6 Sec. 08.72.020. MEMBERSHIP OF BOARD AND TERMS OF OFFICE. The
7 board consists of five persons, appointed by the governor. Members
8 serve staggered terms of three years. [THE TERMS OF THE PUBLIC MEMBERS
9 OF THE BOARD SHALL BE SET SO THAT THEY DO NOT EXPIRE AT THE SAME TIME.]

10 * Sec. 4. AS 08.72.040 is amended to read:

11 Sec. 08.72.040. QUALIFICATIONS. Three board members shall be
12 licensed, practicing optometrists who have been residents for at least
13 three years. One shall be a licensed physician, board certified in
14 ophthalmology. One shall be a person who has [TWO SHALL BE PERSONS WHO
15 HAVE] no direct financial interest in the health care industry.