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Offered: 3/24/80
Referred: Judiciary

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY THE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

2 CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 79

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 ELEVENTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST 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, including
29 proper responses to reactions which may result from topical applications

1 of drugs to the eye.

2 (b) No person practicing optometry may administer drugs except for
3 recognition of pathology and diagnosis of a vision anomaly.

4 (c) Topical anesthetics, mydriatics, miotics and cycloplegics may
5 be used by a person practicing optometry under conditions approved by
6 the board.

7 * Sec. 3. AS 17.15 is amended by adding a new section to Article 1 to
8 read:

9 Sec. 17.15.055. SALES TO OPTOMETRISTS. A person licensed to
10 practice optometry under AS 08.72 who has been authorized by the Board
11 of Examiners in Optometry to use topically applied drugs under AS 08.-
12 72.305 may purchase topical anesthetics, mydriatics, miotics and cyclo-
13 plegics.

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