

SB

245

(2 FILES)

BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS

- (1) SYNOPSIS
- (2) POSITION PAPER - ALASKA HEALTH COALITION
- (3) BUDGET & AUDIT COMMITTEE'S SUMMARY

SB 245 - Board of Dispensing Opticians

Extends board - June 30, 1980

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HCSSB 245

Sections 1 & 2 extends board until January 1, 1981 and then jurisdiction over licensing of dispensing opticians is transferred to the Department of Commerce and Economic Development.

Sections 3 & 4 includes within duties of Department the duty of providing investigative services to the boards for the purpose of assisting those boards in matters of professional discipline.

Sections 5 - 17 provides for necessary statute changes to effect transfer of authority from board to Department.

Section 18 repeals appropriate sections amended by this bill.

Section 19 is effective date clause.

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HCSSB 245amH

Page 5, lines 7 through 12: deletes all material.

POSITION OF ALASKA HEALTH COALITION RE: SUNSET FREE CONFERENCE

1. 4 year continuance for major boards: June 30, 1983  
medical, dental, pharmacy, nursing, veterinary medicine, optometry
2. 2 year continuance for other boards: June 30, 1981  
physical therapy, psychology, dispensing opticians, chiropractic
3. No more than 2 lay persons on each board.
4. Delete Sec. 8 of HCS Sb 240 (medical board regarding discrimination and denial of services.)
5. Delete Sec. 205 from HCS SB 246 or

Amend to read:

The board may waive the examination requirements for an applicant who meets the requirements of AS.36.110, pays the required fee, (and has an) holds an active licence from and has been in active practice for at least 30 hours per week for a period of 5 years in a state with licensing requirements at least equal to this state's in scope, quality, and difficulty and who has no judgements or disciplines assessed against such licence either by another state, professional review board, or state dental board and who has not failed the clinical examination of this state.

## THE LEGISLATURE

BUDGET AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

FINANCE DIVISION  
POUCH W—STATE CAPITOL

JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811

November 10, 1978

SUMMARY OF: A Performance Review of the Board of Dispensing Opticians.

### PURPOSE OF THE REVIEW

In accordance with the intent of Alaska Statutes 24.20.271 (1) and 44.06.050 (sunset legislation), a review of the Board of Dispensing Opticians was conducted to review Board activities and accomplishments to determine if the Board has been operating in an effective, efficient and economical manner. The major areas reviewed were the Board's operations and its licensing, examination, administration, complaint and affirmative action functions.

### REPORT CONCLUSION

In our opinion, the Board has not operated in an effective manner and continuation of the Board and the licensing of the profession is not necessary to protect the public's health, safety and welfare.

However, if the Legislature deems that continuing the Board of Dispensing Opticians and the licensing of the profession is in the public's best interest, then several changes need to be implemented in order for the Board to effectively serve the public.

The Board has not enforced the Dispensing Opticians Law. It is the Board's responsibility to regulate the profession, thereby ensuring that the public is adequately protected. However, because of insufficient investigative support by the Division of Occupational Licensing, the Board has been somewhat hampered in enforcing the law.

Presently there is a shortage of opticians in several areas of Alaska. Board policies are not encouraging the entry of qualified opticians into Alaska. For example, the Board has no reciprocity or endorsement agreements with other states. Also, the Board's examination is given only once a year.

In addition, the Board has given almost no guidance concerning license violations. The public would be better protected as well as the profession, if regulations concerning license violations were better defined.

HCS The 2d FREE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE report on SENATE BILL  
 SB NO. 245 (continuing the existence of the Board of  
 245 Dispensing Opticians, effective date) and HOUSE COMMIT-  
 amil TEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 245 amended House  
 (terminating the existence of the Board of Dispensing  
 Opticians on January 1, 1981 and reassigning its re-  
 sponsibilities to the Department of Commerce and Econ-  
 omic Development, effective date) (page 1319 of the  
 journal) was before the House.

Mr. Anderson moved that the 2d Free Conference Committee report be adopted, thus adopting FCCSSB 245, and asked that the members vote yes.

The question being: "Shall the House adopt the Free Conference Committee report?" The roll was taken with the following result.

#### FCCSSB 245

Yes:	22	Anderson, Barnes, Beirne Buchholdt, Carney, Chatterton, Duncan, Eliason, Fuller, Guy, Malford, Mayes, Murlbert, Malone, Martin, Miller, Montgomery, Munson, Osterback, Parker, Smith, Zharoff
No:	12	Bettisworth, Brown, Cotten, Freeman, Gardiner, McKinnon, Metcalf, Moss, Farr, Phillips, Randolph, Rogers
Not Voting:	6	Branson, Naugen, Meekins, Miles, O'Connell, Schaeffer

Representative Cotten changed his vote from "yes" to "nay."

Representative Metcalf changed his vote from "yes" to "nay."

Representative Freeman changed his vote from "yes" to "nay."

FCCS And so the House adopted the 2d Free Conference Com-  
 SB mittee report, thus adopting FCCSSB 245

245

"An Act relating to the continua-  
 tion of regulatory boards and con-  
 tinuing the existence of the Board  
 of Dispensing Opticians, and pro-  
 viding for an effective date."