

(2) *Practice of Optometry is defined* by listing specific acts, or practices included in curriculums of recognized schools and colleges of optometry (Sec. 3(2))—and expands and extends definition to bring it up to date with definitions of other states.

Present Law: Optometry is defined as application of optical principles through technical methods and devices (2-501).

(3) *Requirements for licensure* (Sec. 4)—requires high school diploma *plus* two years college level courses preparatory to professional study and four years professional training at accredited institutions.

Present Law: Requires two year high school course and graduation from a course in optometry of not less than 1000 hours (2-511).

(4) *Reciprocity* with other states (Sec. 5)—provides reciprocity privileges to an individual licensed to practice in another state who passes a practical and oral examination.

Present Law: Does not require examination of applicant for reciprocity license (2-518).

(5) *Revocation, suspension and refusal to grant licenses* (Sec. 7)—prohibits advertising, displays, signs (other than modest announcements) by holders of license, and similar arrangements to solicit or induce patronage. Also prohibits practice as an employee of a person other than a duly licensed optometrist.

Present law: Specifically names the following reasons only for suspension, revocation, cancellation or refusal of a license: crime involving moral turpitude or habitual use of narcotics.

(6) *Unlawful for other persons to engage in practice of Optometry* (Sec. 8)—prohibits the advertising of optometric services or materials which contain price, cost or reference thereto; rebates or kickbacks; other inducements to induce patronage; the payment for the services of an optometrist except by another optometrist; and deceptive practices. Provides penalties for such unlawful acts.

Present law: Is limited to the following: practice of optometry without a license prohibited—misrepresentation—false impersonation—penalties.

(7) *Exemptions from the Act* (Sec. 9)—sets forth a series of exemptions. It provides that a physician or surgeon shall not be required to have a license under the optometry law. Opticians are permitted to fill the written prescription of a physician or an optometrist.

Present law: Physicians, surgeons, persons selling spectacles or eye glasses are not governed by the Act.

(8) *Power of injunction* (Sec. 12)—Commissioners have right to invoke an injunction to restrain a violation.

Present law: No provision for injunction.

(9) *Freedom of Choice* (Sec. 14)—persons with visual problems related to the practice of optometry cannot be denied their right to obtain the services of an optometrist by any agent or employee of the District of Columbia.

Present law: Does not contain any provision relating to the deprivation of a person's freedom to select between the licensed disciplines who provide vision care.

(10) *Current licenses continue to be valid* (Sec. 15)—holders of licenses on the effective date of the Act continue to be in effect.

Mr. SISK. I might say that several Members have introduced bills on this subject:

H.R. 595 by the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Fuqua; H.R. 732 by the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. Hull; H.R. 10075 by the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Springer; H.R. 12297 by the gentleman from Minnesota, Mr. Nelsen, along with the gentleman from California, Mr. Clausen; and also as cosponsors of my bill, H.R. 12276, we have the gentleman from Texas, Mr. Teague; the gentleman from Florida, Mr. Fuqua; the gentleman from New Mexico, Mr. Walker; the gentleman from Kansas, Mr. Skubitz; the gentleman from Kansas, Mr. Dole; and the gentleman from Washington, Mr. Adams.