

ground and specified properly for the care of the patient and trained so to do.

Mr. GUDE. Would you not reach the same end if you say that people who grind glasses on prescription be governed by certain regulations so they would follow the prescription?

Dr. CHAPMAN. I don't think it is impossible for someone else to grind a pair of glasses to prescription and to have it done accurately and done well. I find no fault with that at all.

Mr. SISK. The gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. WHITENER. Would this bill permit a local optician to fill a prescription from an out of District optometrist?

Dr. CHAPMAN. Yes, sir.

Mr. WHITENER. The bill says "except as otherwise prescribed in this Act" he is not allowed to engage in the practice of optometry in the District of Columbia. This is page 3, line 5, subsection (3) of HR 12276.

Dr. CHAPMAN. Except as otherwise provided in this Act—

Mr. WHITENER. Where is that "except as otherwise provided"?

Dr. CHAPMAN. I was afraid you would ask me that.

As I quickly look at it, Mr. Whitener, the exception I speak of does not prevent persons from providing eyeglasses on prescription from an individual licensed to practice optometry, medicine or osteopathy. That is later on in the bill.

Mr. WHITENER. Where is that? I have read page 13 and I don't interpret it as you do.

Dr. CHAPMAN. That is not what I have reference to, Mr. Whitener.

Mr. WHITENER. As I see it, the only exception you make is for military officers, and others shown here on pages 12 and 13.

Dr. CHAPMAN. Would this statement satisfy what you are questioning—and I can't find it in the new bill but it is in there just the same—"Persons from supplying spectacles or eyeglasses on prescription from an individual licensee to practice optometry, medicine, or osteopathy."?

That is in the bill.

Mr. HORTON. Page 15, line 6.

Mr. WHITENER. My point is that in the definition of optometry on page 3 the language is limited to an optometrist licensed and engaged in the practice of optometry in the District of Columbia.

I submit that there is nothing in the provisions on either page 13 or page 15 which goes beyond that specific definition.

Mr. FTQUA. Would not "as otherwise provided" take care of that?

Mr. WHITENER. It says nothing about that.

Dr. CHAPMAN. If there is some doubt we would be willing to clarify it for you.

Mr. SISK. There is no question about our intent on this.

Mr. WHITENER. But we are dealing now with language. We are not dealing with intent. If we pass this bill the court will look at the language and not what might be in the back of our minds.

I don't think it is clear at all.

Dr. CHAPMAN. There is no question at all, Mr. Whitener, about that fact. We hope we can have it clarified to take care of it for you.

Mr. WHITENER. I suppose you have been into this, but the "adaptation" of a lens is referred to. What does that mean?