

means filling a prescription. Adapting. Adapting is an optical term for filling a prescription. That is just what an optician does. I don't believe this should be a definition as a practice of optometry because in effect when you do that you are saying that the optician is practicing optometry and he is not. He is practicing opticianry just by doing that.

Mr. WHITENER. How do you interpret the word "utilization" as used there?

Mr. WEINMANN. It is a very broad word. I really don't know what was intended by it except that I would say this entire bill is drafted in such a way that it is to the advantage of the AOA membership and to the disadvantage of every other conceivable group of the population.

In other words, there are areas here where there is an infringement of the optician's function. There is an area here which we believe is an infringement of the ophthalmologist's functions. I haven't mentioned that in my statement here, although I think I did in my more formal statement, which was submitted to you. But, because I believe that the ophthalmologists and the AMA can take very good care of themselves, and I am sure they will pick up all of the items that I am talking about—but, as I say, this whole bill is drafted in such a way as to redound to the advantage of the individual optometrist at the expense of everyone else.

For example, in (a) the employment of any objective or subjective means for the examination of the human eye, including its appendages, I think that is going too far. That is encroaching on the field of medicine. I say that because, for example, that would include the glaucoma test. The glaucoma test is administered with anesthesia usually. I think they have some new electronic means, but generally it is done with anesthesia.

I don't believe an optometrist should be permitted to perform a glaucoma test but under (a) he would be permitted to do it. This is just another instance of the broad provisions here, all running to the advantage of the optometrist. Maybe I shouldn't blame them for making a pitch, but as far as the public welfare of the District of Columbia and its citizens are concerned, that is not this bill.

Mr. HORTON. It also provides in (d) that the practice of optometry is the furnishing of lenses, prisms or frames. Would it be your interpretation that the manufacturer of lenses or the manufacturer of eyeglass frames would be included in the definition for the practice of optometry?

Mr. WEINMANN. It certainly might be so interpreted. I wouldn't necessarily interpret it that way, but I think when you use broad words such as "utilization" and "furnishing" you run into the problem of interpretation and there is no telling how broadly it can be interpreted.

I could see that interpretation being given to it and, of course, that is one of the reasons why I don't believe that language should be in there, because it is too broad. Because it encompasses areas or could encompass areas which are the domain of others. Yet that is described as the practice of optometry.

Mr. HORTON. In this connection are you concerned with regard to subsection (4) on page 11, line 8 of H.R. 12276, which has to do with