

Second, the ready-to-wear magnifying spectacles play an important role in the comfort of mankind.

Third, these glasses are safe to wear.

Fourth, the merchandising and wearing of these glasses is approved by government authority.

Mr. SISK. Would the gentleman explain to which glasses he is referring?

Mr. WEIR. These (pointing) are magnifying glasses that can be used for reading purposes but they are placed for convenience in frames, primarily used for the benefit of the aged.

Mr. SISK. I wanted to get that cleared up. Are they exempt as sun-glasses and other types?

Mr. WEIR. I will show you the type of glasses that I mean (handing up samples.)

These will merchandise from \$1.95 to \$3.50. They look like regular glasses. They are in all styles, "granny" type or regular type glasses. They really are magnifying glasses, not prescription glasses, merely placed in a frame for convenience. You could hold them out like this as you do many magnifying glasses or put them on your face.

Referring back to one of the original reasons for the prohibition of the sale of these glasses, if they were provided for in the District of Columbia this would be at variance with the law as it exists in the State of Maryland and in the State of Virginia.

That completes my basic summary.

This pair is for reading purposes only.

Mr. SISK. I do not know how anybody could wear these. I can't see my way around the room in them. Maybe somebody can. I don't know.

Mr. WEIR. They are utilized for only the person that could. They go in the store and pick out any one. Use it as you would a magnifying glass. These glasses are manufactured by the same firms that manufacture regular glasses you or I may wear, such as Bausch & Lomb, Pennsylvania Optical.

Mr. SISK. Have you completed your statement?

Mr. WEIR. Yes, sir.

Mr. SISK. I really do not have many questions. I am a little concerned the Board of Trade would oppose what we are thinking of doing here, that is, to protect the people locally from the standpoint of visual care. Having been here and dealt with the Board of Trade, I am rather astonished, Mr. Weir, they would take a position in opposition to anything that would enhance and improve health care. Certainly there is nothing in my opinion that we would be more concerned about than our eyes. I doubt there is anything more precious either to a child or adult.

I can understand that you might disagree with some portions of the bill but not oppose upgrading the eye care in the District; that just doesn't seem to be of benefit to the Board of Trade. That is about the only comment I can make.

I would ask the gentleman this one question. Does the gentleman himself feel that permitting the sale of this kind of glasses is really in the best interests of the public?

Mr. WEIR. I certainly do.