

Whereas these bills limit the practice of optometry in the District of Columbia to qualified persons who have been graduated from an approved school or college of optometry and have passed examinations prescribed by the D.C. Commissioners, and

Whereas these bills, if enacted, will improve optometric service to the District of Columbia citizens and protect them from incompetent and fraudulent operators, now, therefore, be it

Resolved that the Federation of Citizens Association in regular meeting assembled on June 8, 1967, does endorse H.R. 595, 732, and 1283.

Approved unanimously by the Federation, June 8, 1967.

DR. EDWARD A. KANE,
Chairman, Health Committee.
MRS. EDWARD B. MORRIS,
Secretary.

COVINA, CALIF., March 9, 1967.

HON. JOHN L. McMILLAN,
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. McMILLAN: It was a bit of testimony offered by a "commercial" optometrist that needs revising, although your colleague Congressman Sisk may have checked it.

In the State of California it is true that optometrists may not work for corporations or firms, but it is not true that they may not advertise. They may and they do. The significant thing is that they may not advertise prices. This weakens their appeal to the uninformed and so we do have a cleaner and better quality of optometry in California.

It probably is true that patients in California are paying more for real optometric services than the residents of the District of Columbia pay for the subquality care of the advertising optometrists in the District, but the statement that the District services are "the same" is not a fact. There are, as I am sure you know, some splendid optometrists in the District. The President and his two daughters bear witness to that fact. At the same time there is a scandalous debasement of visual service in the District because these subquality commercial men are allowed to advertise prices. Would you allow a physician to advertise prices in the District?

Cordially yours,

RALPH BARSTOW.

MR. SISK. Is there anyone in the room who at this time would like to make a statement to the committee or to offer any testimony to the committee, or to insert a statement into the record? If not, this concludes the hearings on these various bills with regard to the regulation and practice of optometry in the District of Columbia.

DR. ROWE. Congressman Jacobs asked me to supply some information for the record. How long will the record be open so that I can get that information in?

MR. SISK. I would say that the record would be kept open until a week from this coming Monday which would be the 28th.

Could you get that in by the 28th?

DR. ROWE. Yes, sir.

MR. SISK. The record will be kept open for the information that you have agreed to supply.

There being no further requests, this adjourns the hearing.

(Whereupon, at 1:00 p.m., the Subcommittee adjourned.)

(Subsequently, the following was received for the record:)