

ACT 292

H.B. NO. 2647

A Bill for an Act Relating to Optometry.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Chapter 459, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“§459- Therapeutically certified optometrists; scope; qualifications; advisory committee. (a) The use and prescription of topical therapeutic pharmaceutical agents as established by the joint formulary advisory committee and adopted by the board for the treatment and management of conditions of the anterior segment of the human eye, eyelids, and lacrimal system and the non-invasive surface removal of superficial foreign bodies from the anterior segment of the human eye and eyelids is authorized only for an optometrist licensed under this chapter who meets the requirements of a therapeutically certified optometrist as authorized in this section. The therapeutically certified optometrist shall not prescribe, dispense, or administer oral pharmaceutical agents except those available without prescription. Treatment of glaucoma and performing any invasive surgery shall not be allowed. Therapeutic pharmaceutical agents shall not include any of the controlled substances enumerated in sections 329-14, 329-16, 329-18, 329-20, and 329-22.

(b) The board shall grant recognition as a therapeutically certified optometrist; provided the optometrist has:

- (1) A current, unencumbered license as an optometrist in this State;
- (2) Completed a one-hundred hour board-approved course in the treatment and management of ocular diseases;
- (3) Passed the National Board of Examiners in Optometry Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease examination;
- (4) Completed one-hundred hours of practical therapeutic pharmaceutical agents use under the supervision of an ophthalmologist licensed under chapter 453. The ophthalmologist shall certify completion of the one-hundred hours of hands-on experience and the competency of the optometrist to prescribe, dispense, and administer therapeutic pharmaceutical agents on a form and format prescribed by the board; and
- (5) The therapeutically certified optometrist shall renew the certification with the biennial renewal of license and submit proof of satisfying eight hours of continuing education in the treatment and management of ocular diseases.

(c) The department of commerce and consumer affairs shall establish a joint formulary advisory committee composed of two persons licensed as optometrists, two persons licensed as pharmacists, and two persons licensed in ophthalmology by the board of medical examiners. The joint formulary advisory committee shall recommend the applicable formulary for persons certified under this section. The board of optometry shall adopt the formulary as established by the joint formulary advisory committee in its rules.”

SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1999.

(Approved June 24, 1996.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.