

A Bill for an Act Relating to Optometry Examination Requirements.

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

SECTION 1. Section 459-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“**§459-8 Conduct of examinations.** Each applicant whose application is received by the board after December 31, 1986, shall pass all written examinations given by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. Beginning January 1, 1991, each applicant shall also pass a practical (Patient Care) examination administered by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry.

The board shall state in its rules the pass/fail cutoff scores for all required examinations. The board shall accept the passing scores of all National Board of Examiners in Optometry written examinations if the examinations were passed in their entirety by the applicant after December 31, 1986. The board shall accept the scores of the practical (Patient Care) examination only if the examination was passed by the applicant [less than five years prior to the date the application was received by the board.] after January 1, 1991. The board may accept the scores of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry written examinations passed before December 31, 1986, and the National Board of Examiners in Optometry practical (Patient Care) examination passed before January 1, 1991, if the examinations are determined by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry to be substantially equivalent to the current examinations and the applicant holds a current and valid license under the laws of another state.’’

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 22, 1997.)