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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Health Policy (Latvala) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 463.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

463.006 Licensure and certification by examination.—

(1) Any person desiring to be a licensed practitioner
pursuant to this chapter must ~~shall~~ apply to the department and
must submit proof to ~~take the licensure and certification~~



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11 ~~examinations.~~ the department that she or he shall examine each
12 ~~applicant who the board determines has:~~

13 (a) Has completed the application forms as required by the
14 board, remitted an application fee for certification not to
15 exceed \$250, remitted an examination fee for certification not
16 to exceed \$250, and remitted an examination fee for licensure
17 not to exceed \$325, all as set by the board.

18 (b) ~~Submitted proof satisfactory to the department that she~~
19 ~~or he:~~

20 ~~1.~~ Is at least 18 years of age.

21 (c) ~~2.~~ Has graduated from an accredited school or college of
22 optometry approved by rule of the board.

23 (d) ~~3.~~ Is of good moral character.

24 (e) ~~4.~~ Has successfully completed at least 110 hours of
25 transcript-quality coursework and clinical training in general
26 and ocular pharmacology as determined by the board, at an
27 institution that:

28 ~~1.a.~~ Has facilities for both didactic and clinical
29 instructions in pharmacology; and

30 ~~2.b.~~ Is accredited by a regional or professional
31 accrediting organization that is recognized and approved by the
32 Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation or the
33 United States Department of Education.

34 (f) ~~5.~~ Has completed at least 1 year of supervised
35 experience in differential diagnosis of eye disease or disorders
36 as part of the optometric training or in a clinical setting as
37 part of the optometric experience.

38 (2) The board shall approve a licensure examination
39 consisting shall consist of the appropriate subjects and



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40 including applicable state laws and rules and general and ocular
41 pharmacology with emphasis on the use and side effects of ocular
42 pharmaceutical agents. The board may by rule substitute a
43 national examination as part or all of the examination and,
44 notwithstanding chapter 456, may by rule offer a practical
45 examination in addition to a the written examination.

46 (3) Each applicant who submits proof satisfactory to the
47 department that he or she has met the requirements of subsection
48 (1), who successfully passes the licensure examination within 3
49 years before the date of application or after the submission of
50 an application, and who otherwise meets the requirements of this
51 chapter is entitled to be licensed as a practitioner and to be
52 certified to administer and prescribe ocular pharmaceutical
53 agents in the diagnosis and treatment of ocular conditions.

54 Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 463.0057, Florida
55 Statutes, is amended to read:

56 463.0057 Optometric faculty certificate.—

57 (3) The holder of a faculty certificate may engage in the
58 practice of optometry as permitted by this section but may not
59 administer or prescribe topical ocular pharmaceutical agents
60 unless the certificateholder has satisfied the requirements of
61 s. 463.006(1)(e) and (f) ~~s. 463.006(1)(b)4. and 5.~~ If a
62 certificateholder wishes to administer or prescribe oral ocular
63 pharmaceutical agents, the certificateholder must also satisfy
64 the requirements of s. 463.0055(1)(b).

65 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.

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67 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

68 And the title is amended as follows:



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69 Delete everything before the enacting clause
70 and insert:

71 A bill to be entitled
72 An act relating to optometry; amending s. 463.006,
73 F.S.; requiring an applicant for licensure as an
74 optometrist to submit proof to the Department of
75 Health that she or he meets certain requirements;
76 removing a requirement that the department examine an
77 applicant who meets specified requirements for
78 licensure and certification; requiring the Board of
79 Optometry to approve a licensure examination that
80 meets certain requirements; clarifying that the board
81 may offer a practical examination in addition to a
82 written examination under certain circumstances;
83 providing that an applicant must pass the licensure
84 examination within a specified timeframe as a
85 condition of licensure as an optometrist and
86 certification to administer and prescribe ocular
87 pharmaceutical agents; amending s. 463.0057, F.S.;
88 conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective
89 date.