

By Mr. White of Boston, petition of W. Paul White for legislation to make certain changes in the law relative to the registration and licensing of dispensing opticians. Health Care.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Seven.

AN ACT MAKING CERTAIN CHANGES IN THE LAW RELATIVE TO THE REGISTRATION AND LICENSING OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 73D of chapter 112 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out said section and inserting in place
3 thereof the following: —

4 *Section 73D.* No person shall directly or indirectly engage in
5 practice as a dispensing optician unless he or she has been granted a
6 license by the board of registration of dispensing opticians referred
7 to in sections seventy-three E to seventy-three L, inclusive. No
8 person or corporation shall directly or indirectly own and operate
9 an establishment, store or office providing the services of a dispensing
10 optician unless such establishment, store or office is managed
11 by a person granted a license under the above mentioned sections
12 in accordance with such rules and regulations as the Board may
13 promulgate.

14 Any person or corporation owning and operating an establish-
15 ment, store or office providing the services of a dispensing optician
16 as of January second, nineteen hundred and eighty-one shall file
17 with the Board by the sixteenth of January, nineteen hundred and
18 eighty-one the following information: the name, street address and
19 telephone number of said establishment, store or office; the name,
20 business address and telephone number of the owner; the name and
21 license number of the manager; and in the case of a natural person,
22 the name and license number of the owner. Any person or corpora-

tion owning an establishment, store or office providing the services of a dispensing optician that opens for business on or after the third of January, nineteen hundred and eighty-one shall file with the Board the above required information within fourteen days from the date of the opening. Any person or corporation referred to in this section shall notify the Board whenever there are changes in the above mentioned information. Such notification shall be filed in writing within fourteen days of the change and shall include: the name of the new owner and date of sale if the establishment, store or office is sold; the new street address and telephone number if the establishment, store or office is relocated; and the name and license number of the new manager if a new manager is appointed.

The Board shall prescribe forms to be used for the filing requirements of this section. Each filing under this section shall be accompanied by a filing fee of twenty dollars.

Any person found in non-compliance with this section shall be punishable by a fine of one hundred dollars for each such violation. The Board, upon the expiration of the fourteen day filing requirement in this section, shall notify the delinquent party by registered mail of such delinquency and the attendant imposed fine. If within thirty days the Board does not receive the required filing information and payment of the fine by the delinquent party an additional fine of two hundred dollars shall be imposed. If within an additional thirty days the delinquent party has again failed to comply with this section, the license of said delinquent party shall be revoked.

SECTION 2. Section 732B of chapter 112 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence of said section and inserting in place thereof the following: —

Application for registration as a dispensing optician may be made by any resident of the commonwealth who pays a fee of twenty-five dollars and furnishes the board with proof that he or she has received at least three years of training and experience as a dispensing optician under the personal physical supervision of a licensed dispensing optician or a registered physician or optometrist; or that he or she has completed a regular day course of not less than twelve months or a regular night course of not less than eighteen months but in any case not less than six hundred hours in an approved school or college which maintains educational requirements satisfactory to the Board.

1 SECTION 3. Section 73K of chapter 112 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out said section and inserting in place
3 thereof the following: —

4 Any person entering the employ of a physician, optometrist or
5 licensed dispensing optician as an apprentice for the purpose of
6 obtaining the experience and training referred to in section
7 seventy-three E shall make written application for certification as
8 an apprentice with the Board. Such application shall be on a form
9 prescribed by the Board and shall be accompanied by a certificate
10 of the employer, verifying the statements made by the applicant.
11 The applicant shall pay a filing fee of fifteen dollars with such
12 application. The Board shall, upon the approval of such applica-
13 tion, issue to the applicant an apprentice's certificate, and there-
14 upon the computation of any period of training and experience
15 referred to in section seventy-three E shall begin. Any person who
16 may have served part of this apprenticeship in any state or country
17 not requiring such certification shall be obliged to give satisfactory
18 proof of such service to the Board. The time spent as an apprentice
19 in the employ of a dispensing optician, or a registered physician or
20 optometrist prior to January first, nineteen hundred and fifty-six,
21 shall be credited to the apprentice at such time of certification upon
22 satisfactory proof of such service furnished to the Board. A certified
23 apprentice may perform any of the acts set forth in section seventy-
24 three C under the personal physical supervision of a licensed
25 dispensing optician or optometrists. All apprentices performing
26 any of the acts set forth in section seventy-three C shall wear badge
27 or tag bearing the word "Apprentice". Said badge or tag shall be
28 worn in a clearly visible location and shall be readable to a person
29 with normal vision for a distance of six feet. In no establishment,
30 store or office shall there be a ratio of more than two apprentices to
31 each licensed dispensing optician, physician or optometrist.

The first part of the report deals with the general situation in the country during the year 1917. It is noted that the weather was generally favorable, but there were some periods of drought. The crops were generally good, but there was a shortage of labor in some districts. The government has taken steps to improve the situation, and it is hoped that the year 1918 will be a successful one.

The second part of the report deals with the financial situation. It is noted that the government has been successful in raising the necessary funds to carry out its policy. The budget for 1918 is estimated to be in the neighborhood of £100 million. It is hoped that this will be sufficient to meet the needs of the country.

The third part of the report deals with the military situation. It is noted that the British Expeditionary Force has been successful in its operations in France. The army has been retrained and is now in a state of readiness to meet any emergency. It is hoped that the year 1918 will be a successful one for the British Expeditionary Force.

The fourth part of the report deals with the political situation. It is noted that the government has been successful in maintaining the peace and stability of the country. The House of Commons has passed the necessary legislation to carry out the government's policy. It is hoped that the year 1918 will be a successful one for the government.

The fifth part of the report deals with the social situation. It is noted that the government has been successful in improving the conditions of the working class. The minimum wage has been raised, and there has been a reduction in the hours of work. It is hoped that the year 1918 will be a successful one for the working class.

The sixth part of the report deals with the foreign situation. It is noted that the British Empire is in a state of strength and stability. The British Navy is the most powerful in the world, and the British Army is the most efficient. It is hoped that the year 1918 will be a successful one for the British Empire.

The seventh part of the report deals with the future. It is noted that the government has a clear and definite policy for the future. It is hoped that the year 1918 will be a successful one for the country.