

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas  
2 84th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2003  
4

# A Bill

Act 288 of 2003  
SENATE BILL 302

5 By: Senator Critcher  
6  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LICENSING REQUIREMENTS OF  
10 OPTOMETRISTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
11

### Subtitle

12 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LICENSING  
13 REQUIREMENTS OF OPTOMETRISTS.  
14  
15  
16

17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
18

19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-90-301 is amended to add a new  
20 subsection to read as follows:

21 17-90-301. Examinations - Fees.

22 (a) No person except those already licensed by the State Board of  
23 Optometry shall practice optometry until he or she shall have:

24 (1) Successfully passed all examinations as the board may  
25 require in the rules and regulations of the board, to include, but not be  
26 limited to, clinical examinations if required; and

27 (2) Registered and received a certificate of registration which  
28 shall have conspicuously printed on its face the definition of optometry set  
29 forth in § 17-90-101.

30 (b) Every applicant for examination shall present satisfactory  
31 evidence that he or she is:

32 (1) Over the age of twenty-one (21);

33 (2) A successful candidate having passed all parts of the  
34 National Board of Optometry examination since January 1, 1987;

35 (3) Of good moral character; and

36 (4) A graduate of a college of optometry which has been



1 accredited by the Council on Education of the American Optometric  
2 Association.

3 (c) All persons making application for examination and for  
4 registration shall be required to pay to the Treasurer of the State Board of  
5 Optometry a fee in a reasonable amount to be fixed by the board.

6 (d)(1) Beginning July 1, 2003, the Arkansas State Board of Optometry  
7 will issue licenses only for optometric physicians to persons who meet:

8 (A) The requirements of this section;

9 (B) The requirements of § 17-90-401; and

10 (C) The requirements of rules of the Arkansas State Board  
11 of Optometry.

12 (2) A person who was licensed as an optometrist prior to July 1,  
13 2003, and who does not meet the standard for licensure as an optometric  
14 physician may continue to renew the license as an optometrist but may only  
15 practice in the manner prescribed by the rules of the board.

16  
17  
18 APPROVED: 3/3/2003  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36