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S.64

An act relating to amendments to the scope of practice for optometrists

The House proposes to the Senate to amend the bill by adding a new section to be Sec. 1a to read as follows:

Sec. 1a. 26 V.S.A. § 1707 is amended to read:

§ 1707. QUALIFICATIONS; TERM OF OFFICE; REMOVAL

(a) The State Board of Optometry is created.

(b)(1) The Board shall consist of ~~five~~ seven members, ~~three~~ four of whom shall be residents of the State who have had at least five years' experience in the practice of optometry in the State and are in the active practice of optometry at the time of their appointment; one member who shall be a resident of the State who has at least five years' experience in the practice of ophthalmology and is in the active practice of ophthalmology at the time of appointment; and two members who shall be representatives of the public, who shall be residents of the State for five years, and who shall have no financial interest in the profession other than as a consumer or potential consumer of its services.

(2) Beginning on January 1, 2031, at least one of the optometrist members of the Board shall hold an advanced therapeutic procedures specialty issued pursuant to subchapter 5 of this chapter.

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