

By: Senator(s) White (5th)

To: Public Health and
Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2959

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-19-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PRESCRIBE AN ANNUAL CERTIFICATE RENEWAL FEE FOR OPTOMETRISTS;
3 AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

5 SECTION 1. Section 73-19-21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
6 amended as follows:

7 73-19-21. Said board shall charge the following fees for
8 examination, registrations and renewals of certificates: The sum
9 of not more than Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for an examination
10 of an applicant who is a resident of Mississippi and not more than
11 Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00) for a nonresident of Mississippi
12 to cover the additional expenses of checking references, character
13 and other statements contained in the application. Every
14 registered optometrist who desires to continue the practice of
15 optometry shall, annually, on or before January 1, pay to the
16 secretary of the board a renewal registration fee of not more than
17 Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for which he shall receive a renewal
18 of his certificate. The board, in its discretion, may set the
19 annual renewal registration fee at different amounts for
20 registered optometrists, for registered optometrists certified to
21 use diagnostic pharmaceutical agents, and for registered
22 optometrists certified to use diagnostic and therapeutic
23 pharmaceutical agents, not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars
24 (\$300.00).

25 In case of neglect to pay the renewal registration fee herein
26 specified, the board may revoke such certificate and the holder

27 thereof may be reinstated by complying with the conditions
28 specified in this chapter. But no certificate or permit shall be
29 revoked without giving sixty (60) days' notice to the delinquent,
30 who, within such period shall have the right of renewal of such
31 certificate on payment of the renewal fee with a penalty of not
32 more than Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00), provided, that retirement from
33 practice for a period not exceeding five (5) years shall not
34 deprive the holder of said certificate of the right to renew his
35 certificate on the payment of all lapsed fees. The board shall
36 adopt a seal and certificate of suitable design and shall conduct
37 its examination at Jackson, in this state. Its permanent records
38 shall be kept in the office of the secretary, which records shall
39 be open to public inspection.

40 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from
41 and after July 1, 1999.