

By: Senator(s) Nunnelee

To: Public Health and Welfare

SENATE BILL NO. 2629

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-19-21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO AUTHORIZE THE STATE BOARD OF OPTOMETRY TO CHARGE LICENSE
3 RENEWAL FEES ON AN ANNUAL BASIS; 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 Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) for which he shall receive a
18 renewal of his certificate. The board, in its discretion, may set
19 the renewal registration fee at different amounts for registered
20 optometrists, for registered optometrists certified to use
21 diagnostic pharmaceutical agents, and for registered optometrists
22 certified to use diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceutical agents,
23 not to exceed the maximum amount prescribed in this section.

24 In case of neglect to pay the renewal registration fee herein
25 specified, the board may revoke such certificate and the holder
26 thereof may be reinstated by complying with the conditions
27 specified in this chapter. But no certificate or permit shall be

28 revoked without giving sixty (60) days' notice to the delinquent,
29 who, within such period shall have the right of renewal of such
30 certificate on payment of the renewal fee with a penalty of not
31 more than Fifteen Dollars (\$15.00), provided, that retirement from
32 practice for a period not exceeding five (5) years shall not
33 deprive the holder of said certificate of the right to renew his
34 certificate on the payment of all lapsed fees. The board shall
35 adopt a seal and certificate of suitable design and shall conduct
36 its examination at Jackson, in this state. Its permanent records
37 shall be kept in the office of the secretary, which records shall
38 be open to public inspection.

39 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
40 and after July 1, 2007.