

**Assembly Bill No. 2771**

CHAPTER 328

An act to amend Sections 3146, 3148, and 3152 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to optometry.

[Approved by Governor July 29, 1996. Filed with Secretary of State July 29, 1996.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2771, Alpert. Optometry.

Existing law provides for the regulation and licensure of the practice of optometry and requires an optometrist to renew his or her license by January 31 of every year.

This bill would instead require an optometrist to renew his or her license every 2 years by the last day of his or her birth month, and would make conforming changes.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Section 3146 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

3146. A certificate issued under this chapter expires at 12 p.m. on the last day of the certificate holder's birth month following its original issuance and thereafter at 12 p.m. on the last day of the certificate holder's birth month every two years if not renewed. To renew an unexpired certificate, the certificate holder shall, before the time that the certificate would otherwise expire, apply for renewal on a form prescribed by the board and pay the renewal fee prescribed by this chapter.

SEC. 2. Section 3148 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

3148. From each fee for the renewal of a certificate of registration for the biennial renewal of a certificate of registration there shall be paid the sum of sixteen dollars (\$16) by the Director of Consumer Affairs to the University of California.

This sum shall be used at and by the University of California solely for the advancement of optometrical research and the maintenance and support of the department at the university in which the science of optometry is taught.

The balance of each renewal fee shall be paid into the Optometry Fund.

SEC. 3. Section 3152 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:



3152. The amount of fees and penalties prescribed by this chapter shall be established by the board in amounts not greater than those specified in the following schedule:

(a) The fee for applicants applying for a certificate of registration who present credentials of graduation from an accredited school of optometry shall not exceed two hundred seventy-five dollars (\$275) that shall not be refunded, except that applicants who are found ineligible to take an examination for a certificate of registration are entitled to a refund of a maximum of one hundred seventy-five dollars (\$175).

(b) The fee for biennial renewal of a certificate of registration shall not exceed three hundred dollars (\$300).

(c) The delinquency fee shall not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25).

(d) The annual fee for the renewal of a branch office license shall not exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75).

(e) The fee for a branch office license shall not exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75).

(f) The penalty for failure to pay the annual fee for renewal of a branch office license shall not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25).

(g) The fee for restoration of a certificate of registration after suspension for failure to comply with the provisions of this chapter relating to branch offices shall not exceed seventy-five dollars (\$75).

(h) The fee for issuance of a certification of registration or upon change of name authorized by law of a person holding a certificate of registration under this chapter shall not exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25).

(i) The board shall submit a report to the fiscal and appropriate policy committees of the Legislature whenever the board increases any fee. The report shall specify the rationale and justification for that increase and include the percentage of the fee increase to be used for enforcement purposes.

