

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

Legislative Document

No. 1411

S.P. 469

In Senate, March 20, 2003

An Act To Increase the Licensing Fee Caps of the State Board of Optometry

Submitted by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation pursuant to Joint Rule 204.

Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joy J. O'Brien".

JOY J. O'BRIEN
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator BROMLEY of Cumberland.
Cosponsored by Representative SULLIVAN of Biddeford and
Representative: RECTOR of Thomaston.

2
3 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

4 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §2422, first ¶**, as amended by PL 1995, c. 606,
5 §6, is further amended to read:

6 Every individual before beginning the practice of optometry
7 in this State must pass an examination before the board. The
8 board shall provide an opportunity for applicants to take the
9 examination at least twice per year. At the discretion of the
10 board, the examination may consist of tests in basic sciences; in
11 anatomy and physiology of the eye; pathology; practical,
12 theoretical and physiological optics; practical and theoretical
13 optometry; clinical diagnosis and therapeutics; and other phases
14 of optometric knowledge and skill the board determines to be
15 essential. The board shall require that a new applicant pass
16 Parts I, II and III of the National Board of Examiners in
17 Optometry examination, including all sections of the Treatment
18 and Management of Ocular Diseases (TMOD) examination. An
19 individual who has applied to be examined shall appear before the
20 board at the time and place the board designates and, before the
21 examination, shall pay to the board a sum not in excess of \$200
22 ~~\$400~~ as established by the board. All applicants successfully
23 passing the examination must be licensed to practice optometry.
24 The board may require applicants who have failed to pass the
25 licensure examination 3 times to enroll in a course of continuing
26 education as prescribed by the board.

27 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §2423, sub-§1**, as amended by PL 1997, c. 117,
28 §3, is further amended to read:

29
30 **1. Annual renewal.** Every licensed optometrist practicing in
31 the State shall pay annually, before the first day of April, to
32 the board a license renewal fee not in excess of \$200 ~~\$400~~ as
33 established by the board under section 2417.
34

35 **Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §2423, sub-§2**, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600,
36 Pt. A, §154, is further amended to read:

37
38 **2. Nonactive license.** Every licensed optometrist not
39 practicing within the State must upon payment of an annual
40 license renewal fee not in excess of \$200 ~~\$400~~ as established by
41 the board, be issued a nonactive license renewal. The fee is
42 payable to the board before the first day of April each year.
43 Should a holder of a nonactive license desire to practice within
44 the State, the licensee shall notify the board in writing, and
45 except as otherwise provided in this chapter, must then be issued
46 an active license by the board.
47
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SUMMARY

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4 This bill increases the fee caps for the State Board of
Optometry in order to enable the board to increase its fees in
order to meet its expenses.