A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OCULARISTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that existing law in Hawaii relating to ocularists, those who design, fit, and fabricate artificial eyes under the supervision of a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist, provides that a certified ocularist may perform within the scope of the ocularist's certification if the certified ocularist is "recognized" by the American Society of Ocularists. The legislature further finds that the American Society of Ocularists is not a certifying board or organization. Therefore, the standard to allow an ocularist to conduct business in Hawaii should be whether an ocularist is certified by a nationally recognized ocularistry certifying board.

SECTION 2. Section 458-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a certified ocularist [as recognized by the American Society of Ocularists] who is certified by the American Board of
Ocularistry, the National Examining Board of Ocularists, or any
other nationally recognized ocularistry certifying board from
performing within the scope of such certification; provided that
the ocularist performs only those functions dealing with the
designing, fitting, and fabricating of artificial eyes, and not
contact lenses of refractive value, and is under the supervision
of a licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist. The ocularist
shall inform the board in writing of the name of the supervising
ophthalmologist or optometrist."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:
Report Title:
Ocularists; Certification

Description:
Specifies that a certified ocularist, certified by a nationally recognized ocularistry certifying board, may perform duties within the scope of that certification.

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