

NORTH CAROLINA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
1969 SESSION

CHAPTER 354
SENATE BILL 372

1 AN ACT TO AMEND ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER 90 OF THE GENERAL STATUTES SO
2 AS TO REQUIRE CONTINUING EDUCATION FOR OPTOMETRISTS AND FOR
3 OTHER PURPOSES.

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5 The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

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7 **Section 1.** Article 6 of Chapter 90 is amended by adding a new Section
8 immediately after G.S. 90-123 and immediately preceding G.S. 90-124 to be known as G.S. 90-
9 123.1 and to read as follows:

10 "**G.S. 90-123.1** All registered optometrists now or hereafter licensed in the State of North
11 Carolina are and shall be required to take annual courses of study in subjects relating to the
12 practice of the profession of optometry to the end that" the utilization and application of new
13 techniques, scientific and clinical advances and the achievements of research will assure
14 expansive and comprehensive care to the public. The length of study shall be prescribed by the
15 Board but shall not exceed twenty-five (25) hours in any calendar year. Attendance must be at a
16 course or courses approved by the Board. Attendance at any course or courses of study are to
17 be certified to the Board upon a form provided by the Board and shall be submitted by each
18 registered optometrist at the time he makes application to the Board for the renewal of his
19 license and payment of his renewal fee. The Board is authorized to use up to one-half of its
20 annual renewal fees for the purposes of contracting with institutions of higher learning,
21 professional organizations, or qualified individuals for the providing of educational programs
22 that meet this requirement. The Board is further authorized to treat funds set aside for the
23 purpose of continuing education as State funds for the purpose of accepting any funds made
24 available under Federal Law on a matching basis for the promulgation and maintenance of
25 programs of continuing education. In no instance may the Board require a greater number of
26 hours of study than are available at approved courses held within the State, and shall be
27 allowed to waive this requirement in cases of certified illness or undue hardship."

28 **Sec. 2.** All laws and clauses of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

29 **Sec. 3.** This Act shall be in full force and effect upon and after January 1, 1970.

30 In the General Assembly read three times and ratified, this the 30th day of April,
31 1969.