

House Bill 1390

By: Representative Ehrhart of the 36<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 30 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 optometrists, so as to change certain provisions relating to creation of the State Board of  
3 Optometry, its composition, and qualifications of its members; to change certain provisions  
4 relating to the terms of office of board members; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 30 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to optometrists,  
9 is amended by striking Code Section 43-30-2, relating to creation of the State Board of  
10 Optometry, its composition, and qualifications of its members, and inserting in its place:

11 "43-30-2.

12 (a) It shall be the duty of the Governor to appoint a State Board of Optometry to consist  
13 of ~~six~~ seven members. This board shall be appointed by the Governor and styled the 'State  
14 Board of Optometry.' All appointments to the board shall be subject to the confirmation  
15 of the Senate. One of the members shall be appointed from the public at large and shall  
16 have no connection whatsoever with the profession or practice of optometry. The  
17 remaining ~~five~~ six members shall be persons who have been actively engaged in the  
18 practice of optometry in the state for five years immediately preceding such appointment,  
19 shall be registered as optometrists under this chapter, and shall be qualified to use  
20 pharmaceutical agents for diagnostic and treatment purposes as authorized under this  
21 chapter.

22 (b) No person shall be eligible for appointment to the board who is connected in any way  
23 with a school teaching optometry or who sells optical goods at wholesale."

**SECTION 2.**

Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 43-30-3, relating to terms of office for board members, and inserting in its place:

"43-30-3.

Two members of the board shall be appointed for one year, two for two years, and one for three years; provided, however, that effective July 1, 2006, a sixth board member shall be appointed for an initial term commensurate with the term of the existing board member whose term as of June 30, 2006, was not coterminous with the term of another board member; and after the expiration of the terms of office of the members so first appointed, subsequent appointments shall be for a term of three years. Any vacancy that may occur from any cause shall be filled by the Governor for the unexpired term."

**SECTION 3.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.