

the bill and the way that the bill was originally drafted in terms of the examination process?

SENATOR CLARK: I personally don't think it changes it at all. The reason it doesn't is because the Board of Examiners of Optometry only recommend to the Board of Health. But Dr. Smith seemed to think that the people trusted the Board of Health more than they would one specific examining board. But that's the way it goes through now. The Examining Board recommends to the Board of Health and the Board of Health then approves. That's the way it is now, but they also could object.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Does that answer your question, Senator Simon?

SENATOR SIMON: One final question, Senator Clark. At the public hearing in my questioning of one of the optometrists... I believe it was Dr. Appleton, I asked him if there might be some way to alleviate some of the fears that they had in terms of the optometrists providing eye drops. One of the things that they said was if the State Board of Medical Examiners...now that is different than what this amendment is, can you explain please to me and the members of the body the difference between the State Board of Medical Examiners and the State Board of Examiners in Optometry...the makeup?

SENATOR CLARK: The State Board of Examiners in Optometry examine optometrists. The State Board of Medical Examiners examine physicians...MD's, DO's, those people. That's the difference Senator. Podiatry goes podiatry. Cosmetology, pharmacy...they all have their own boards. They have specific expertise in those fields. That's the one that does it. I wouldn't want to put the Medical Examiners under the Board of Optometry, or vice versa, because they don't have those specific fields.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Does that answer your question Senator Simon?

SENATOR CLARK: They all use national exams anyway, Neil.

SENATOR SIMON: Just one final question, Senator Clark, I guess since I was talking to Senator Dworak and since both sides have already worked out, it kind of leaves a few of us who have problems with the bill a little high and dry. The question that I still have, that with the use of drops and with the expertise that doctors would have in terms as we have discussed it at the hearing where adverse reactions could occur, I'm trying to understand what opposition there would be if the examination was done by the Medical Board of Examiners as opposed to the....

SENATOR CLARK: The Medical Board of Examiners has no expertise