

September 10, 2018

Department of Health
Board of Opticianry
4052 Bald Cypress Way Bin C-08
Tallahassee, FL 32399-3258

RE: Request for Addition to November 2nd Agenda

Dear Board Representation:

As an association that promotes the value of licensed Opticianry, Professional Opticians of Florida represent over 1100 members that are licensed Opticians in the State of Florida. In addition to providing continuing education, we speak on behalf of our members concerning issues that impact their professional lives. In this regard, we request to be added to the November 2, 2018 agenda. We would like to address the inclusion of the ABO & NCLE's ABO Practical Examination to be offered as an option of examinations for Florida licensure.

Under the current structure, the NCSORB is the only Board-approved practical examination for Florida licensure. The fee for this test is \$325. While the information and examinations are equivalent, the ABO & NCLE's ABO Practical Exam is \$175 less than the current protocol. ABO-NCLE's Practical Examinations incorporate completely new virtual capabilities, video and/or audio, item completion, and numerous other advantages to provide a benchmark to determine actual skills and abilities of licensure candidates.

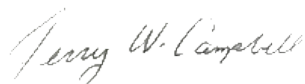
Other states have recognized the equivalence in exam protocols. Most recently, the State of Tennessee's State Board of Dispensing Opticians switched from the NCSORB, to the ABO & NCLE's ABO Practical Examination.

With the information contained herein and on behalf of our membership, we would like to present and discuss the inclusion of the ABO & NCLE's ABO Practical Examination as an option to the State of Florida's Board of Opticianry's licensure requirements.

We look forward to our discussions on November 2nd. If you have any questions or would like additional information beforehand, please contact me at the address above.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration to our request.

Respectfully submitted,



Jerry W. Campbell
President
Professional Opticians of Florida