

eliminate three licensures and ultimately result in just one licensure for the optometrist. As the amendment reads, in order to be granted a license to practice optometry in Nebraska, optometrists applying for a license...and all optometrists applying for a license under reciprocity shall be certified by the department to use pharmaceutical agents as prescribed by this bill. The Technical Review Committee agrees with this amendment and the Department of Health helped in the drafting of it. The second part of the amendment is technical in nature. It was proposed by the bill drafter and is merely technical. And for the record at this time, I would like to state that this bill does not affect the retail merchants who are selling glasses and contact lenses from a prescription. I urge adoption of this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Withem, please.
Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: I will pass.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Any further discussion on the amendment? If not, the question is the adoption of the Chronister amendment. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of that amendment.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senators Hoagland and Vard Johnson would move to amend the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland, please.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. Speaker and colleagues, this is an amendment which removes from the bill certain kinds of dangerous drugs that are intended for the treatment of significant and serious eye conditions from the authority of optometrists in this particular act. Now, let me indicate briefly why Senator Johnson and I and others feel that this particular amendment is necessary. I think we have to recognize, first of all, that optometrists are not physicians, that optometrists have not been trained to treat or cure conditions of the eye. Yet this particular bill