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NOTICE REGARDING LICENSE RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS

As indicated on this year's license renewal application, the registration statute for optometrists was amended in 2012 to state that, effective June 19, 2012:

the board shall require as a condition of granting or renewing an optometrist's certificate of registration, that the optometrist apply to participate in the medical assistance program administered by the secretary of health and human services in accordance with chapter 118E and Title XIX of the Social Security Act and any federal demonstration or waiver relating to such medical assistance program for the limited purposes of ordering and referring services covered under such program, **provided that regulations governing such limited participation are promulgated under said chapter 118E.** An optometrist who chooses to participate in such medical assistance program as a provider of services shall be deemed to have fulfilled this requirement.

G.L. c. 112, s. 16 (emphasis supplied).

The Board has been advised by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services that regulations governing such participation by optometrists have not yet been promulgated. **Consequently, optometrists are not yet required to apply to participate in the medical assistance programs as a condition for renewing their license to practice.**

The Board will update this notice when it receives further information concerning this matter.

