

Bill No. SB 1744

Barcode 725354

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Comm: RCS  
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The Committee on Community Affairs (Wise) recommended the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 1, lines 13-24, delete those lines

and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (6) and (7) are added to section 196.101, Florida Statutes, to read:

196.101 Exemption for totally and permanently disabled persons.--

(6) An optometrist licensed under chapter 463 may certify a person to be totally and permanently disabled solely as a result of legal blindness by issuing a certification in accordance with subsection (7). Certification of total and permanent disability due to legal blindness by a physician and an optometrist licensed in this state may be deemed to meet the requirements of subsection (3).

(7) The optometrist's certification shall read as follows:

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OPTOMETRIST'S CERTIFICATION OF  
TOTAL AND PERMANENT DISABILITY

I, (name of optometrist), an optometrist licensed pursuant to  
chapter 463, Florida Statutes, hereby certify that Mr.  
Mrs. Miss Ms. (name of totally and permanently disabled  
person), social security number \_\_\_\_\_, is totally and  
permanently disabled as of January 1, (year), due to legal  
blindness.

It is my professional belief that the above-named condition  
renders Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms. (name of totally and  
permanently disabled person) totally and permanently disabled  
and that the foregoing statements are true, correct, and  
complete to the best of my knowledge and professional belief.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Address (print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Florida Board of Optometry license number \_\_\_\_\_  
Issued on \_\_\_\_\_

NOTICE TO TAXPAYER: Each Florida resident applying for a total  
and permanent disability exemption must present to the county  
property appraiser, on or before March 1 of each year, a copy  
of this form or a letter from the United States Department of  
Veterans Affairs or its predecessor. Each form is to be  
completed by a licensed Florida optometrist.

NOTICE TO TAXPAYER AND OPTOMETRIST: Section 196.131(2),  
Florida Statutes, provides that any person who knowingly and

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1 willfully gives false information for the purpose of claiming  
 2 homestead exemption commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,  
 3 punishable by a term of imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or a  
 4 fine not exceeding \$5,000, or both.

5 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

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8 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

9 And the title is amended as follows:

10 On page 1, line 8, after the semicolon,

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12 insert:

13 specifying a certification form;

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