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AUDITOR GENERAL

STATE OF ARIZONA
OFFICE OF THE
AUDITOR GENERAL

WILLIAM THOMSON
DEPUTY AUDITOR GENERAL

April 4, 2003

The Honorable Robert Blendu, Chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

The Honorable John Huppenthal, Vice Chair
Joint Legislative Audit Committee

Dear Senator Blendu and Representative Huppenthal:

Our Office has recently completed an 18-month followup of the Arizona Board of Dispensing Opticians regarding the implementation status of the 10 audit recommendations (including sub-parts of the recommendations) presented in the performance audit report released in August 2001 (Auditor General Report No. 01-17). As the attached grid indicates:

- 9 of the 10 recommendations have been implemented; and
- 1 legislative recommendation has not been implemented.

The only recommendation not implemented is a legislative recommendation that according to the agency, the Legislature feels is not needed. Therefore, unless otherwise directed by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, this report concludes our follow-up work on the Arizona Board of Dispensing Opticians.

Sincerely,

Debbie Davenport
Auditor General

Attachment

cc: Ms. Lori Scott, Executive Director
Arizona Board of Dispensing Opticians

ARIZONA BOARD OF DISPENSING OPTICIANS
18-Month Follow-Up Report To
Auditor General Report No. 01-17

SUNSET FACTOR RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
1. The Board should formally approve all licenses issued under its name.	Implemented at 18 months	
2. To improve examination administration, the Board should allow only as many applicants in the examination room as can be accommodated by the various stations at any one time.	Implemented at 6 months	
3. The Board should update the examination scoring criteria and ensure that it matches industry standards.	Implemented at 6 months	
4. The Board should train two members or outside individuals to grade examinations, provide the graders with clearly articulated scoring criteria, and establish a procedure for verifying the accuracy of the grades issued.	Implemented at 6 months	
5. The Board needs to establish a procedure for removing all identifying information before examinations are submitted to graders.	Implemented at 6 months	
6. The Board should provide information to failing applicants about which skills need improvement.	Implemented at 6 months	

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Recommendation	Status of Implementing Recommendation	Explanation for Recommendations That Have Not Been Implemented
7. The Board should adequately separate its investigation and adjudication processes.	Implemented at 6 months	
8. The Legislature should consider modifying the following statutes to better enable the Board to fulfill its responsibilities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A.R.S. §32-1691.01(B) should be modified to no longer require that complaints be verified. b. A.R.S. §32-1682(D) should be modified to allow the Board to keep its examination confidential. c. A.R.S. §32-1691(2) should be clarified to state that only <i>unlicensed</i> individuals working under the supervision of a physician, optometrist, or licensed dispensing optician are exempt from meeting licensure requirements and standards (<i>unlicensed</i> added). 	<p style="text-align: center;">Implemented at 12 months</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Implemented at 12 months</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Not Implemented</p>	<p style="color: red;">According to the Board’s Executive Director, legislators did not believe that this statute needed clarification and, as a result, did not implement this recommendation.</p>