

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

HOUSE BILL 21

**52ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2016**

INTRODUCED BY

Jimmie C. Hall

AN ACT

RELATING TO BLIND AND DISABLED PERSONS; PROVIDING FOR A  
LICENSED OPTOMETRIST TO QUALIFY A PERSON AS BLIND.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 28-7-19 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1986,  
Chapter 108, Section 5) is amended to read:

"28-7-19. QUALIFICATION AS BLIND--EXAMINATIONS  
REQUIRED.--

A. Qualification of a person as blind shall be  
determined by means of an eye examination by a licensed  
ophthalmologist or a licensed optometrist. Blindness shall be  
the major handicap in cases of multiple handicaps. Persons who  
are not blind but who have been certified by a licensed  
ophthalmologist or a licensed optometrist as suffering from a  
deteriorating condition [~~which~~] that will result in blindness

.202156.1

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

also qualify as blind.

B. The commission for the blind shall determine the procedure to be followed for the examination of any person to establish blindness and shall maintain a list of all ophthalmologists and optometrists currently licensed in New Mexico. The person may choose any licensed ophthalmologist or licensed optometrist to make the examination and the cost shall be paid by the commission pursuant to its regulations."