Present law provides for the La. State Board of Optometry Examiners within the La. Dept. of Health, comprising five licensed optometrists who have practiced optometry in this state for seven years and one consumer member. Proposed law retains present law and provides that the optometrists must be actively licensed and in good standing with the board.

Present law provides that each licensed optometrist member of the board shall be appointed by the governor from a list of three names submitted to him by the board. Proposed law provides for five board districts with one licensed optometrist member representing each district.

Present law provides that the term of each member shall be five years. Proposed law retains present law and provides that no person shall be appointed to serve more than three full terms, whether the service is consecutive or not.

Proposed law provides that no member of the board shall hold an elected or appointed position in an optometry professional association for the term of the member's appointment to the board.

Proposed law shall only apply to any term that began on or after January 1, 2016, and shall not prohibit any current board members who have served more than three full terms from continuing to serve in that position for the remainder of their term or until a successor is appointed.

Effective August 1, 2022.

(Amends R.S. 37:1042(A), (B), (C)(1)(intro para), and (D))