Overview

This bill clarifies qualifications for licensure as an optometrist, specifies forms of disciplinary action that may be imposed by the Board of Optometry, and modifies a penalty provision.

1. **Examination.** Amends § 148.57, subd. 1. In a subdivision establishing qualifications for licensure as an optometrist, specifies that an applicant must have obtained a clinical doctorate from an optometry school (current law requires an applicant to have graduated from an optometry school). Also makes technical changes.

2. **Forms of disciplinary action.** Adds § 148.603. Specifies the disciplinary or corrective actions the board may take when grounds for disciplinary action exist against a licensed optometrist or applicant. Permitted actions are denying an application for a credential; revoking, suspending, limiting, or conditioning a person's credential; censuring or reprimanding a person; imposing a civil penalty of up to $10,000 for each violation; or entering into an agreement for corrective action.

3. Amends § 148.61, subd. 5. Makes it a gross misdemeanor to practice optometry without a license, and removes language making it a gross misdemeanor to violate any provision of the optometry licensing statutes.