

MEMO FOR CABINET

BY

THE HON. MINISTER OF HEALTH

GRANTING OF LICENCE TO ASSISTANT APOTHECARIES

Over a number of years, reports have been submitted by the Board of Examiners for the certificate of Assistant Apothecary that candidates presenting themselves for examination were found not to have attained the standard of knowledge and competence required for such certificate.

Notices drawing attention to this unsatisfactory state of affairs have been issued for general information as also to ~~Managing~~ Apothecaries undertaking the training of prospective candidates.

In 1963 the Advisory and Executive Board advised that section (12) sub-section (1) paragraph (1) of the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance be amended so as to reasonably ensure that educational standards are reached before a candidate embarks on his practical training of two years, and to require notifications at the start of such a course, and thus, be in a better position to exercise control over the prescribed period of training.

It was felt, however, that in fairness to those concerned this new ~~requisite~~ should not operate straight-away, but in a way that would not prejudice such prospective candidates as may have already started their training programme under conditions when such notification was not required. This is being met by providing one month for the giving of notice that such training had in fact been started before the coming into force of the Act and by allowing an additional two months in which a signed statement to this effect could be produced.

Hon. Ministers are asked to agree to the attached Draft Bill which has already been vetted by the Crown Advocate General and that it be presented in Parliament.

15th December, 1966.

A B I L L

entitled

AN ACT further to amend the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance, Cap. 51.

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the House of Representatives of Malta, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:-

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Medical and Kindred Professions (Amendment) Act, 1967, and shall be read and construed as one with the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance, hereinafter referred to as "the principal law".

Amendment of section 17 of the principal law.

2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 17 of the principal law shall be amended as follows:-

(a) immediately before the words "he has undergone" there shall be inserted the words "after having passed the examination referred to in the last preceding paragraph,"; and

(b) immediately after the words "two years" there shall be inserted the words "commencing on the date on which the candidate and a registered apothecary had notified the Advisory and Executive Board of the commencement of the training hereinafter mentioned,".

Saving

3. The amendment made by paragraph (b) of section 2 of this Act shall not apply in respect of any such person as within thirty days of the enactment of this Act shall inform the Advisory and Executive Board that he commenced the practical training referred to in paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 17 of the principal law before the enactment of this Act and shall produce to the said Board, within a further period of sixty days, a declaration to that effect signed by him and by a registered apothecary specifying the date when such training was commenced.

Objects/....

Objects and Reasons

The purposed of this Bill is to amend the Medical and Kindred Professions Ordinance so as to make certain conditions for the grant of a licence of assistant apothecary more definite.