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October 30, 1945

Mr. Chester H. Smith, Secretary-Treasurer
Arizona State Board of Examiners in the
Basic Sciences
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona

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ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL

Dear Sir:

Your communication of October 23, 1945, requesting our opinion on a certain phase of the Basic Science Law, is hereby acknowledged. Specifically, you request our opinion on the third category of applicants, to-wit:

"(c) those who present to us basic science certificates which have been granted by a basic science board because the applicants have passed medical or other examinations including the subject of anatomy, bacteriology, chemistry, hygiene, pathology, and physiology. (A specific example will make this problem perfectly clear. Mr. B. lives in Illinois which has no basic science law. He passes a medical examination before a medical board there. He presents the results of his medical examinations to the Basic Science Board of New Mexico. The Board in New Mexico issues him a certificate in the basic sciences. The applicant then presents his New Mexico certificate to our Board as a basis for granting our certificate by reciprocity.)"

As you stated in your letter, we have previously held that, entitled to the certificate on reciprocity basis are those who were practicing healing arts in a state before the basic science law was passed in such state, and those who gained a basic science certificate in another state upon taking and passing the examination before a Basic Science Board.

It seems that granting certificates of basic science through reciprocity to applicants under classification (c) will be both logical and consistent with our prior opinions.

Mr. Chester H. Smith

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The principal object of the basic science statutes is to assure that prospective practitioners of the healing arts be adequately instructed in the prescribed sciences. Since the obtaining of a certificate from the state of New Mexico on the basis you mentioned does not appear to be a subterfuge to circumvent the educational requirements of our state or of the state of New Mexico, we hold such certificate should be honored by your Board as coming within the purview of our reciprocity statutes.

Yours very truly,

JOHN L. SULLIVAN
Attorney General

HARRY C. JULIANI
Chief Assistant

HCJ:s

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