

House Resolution 1121

By: Representatives Maddox of the 59th, Post 2, Greene-Johnson of the 60th, Post 3, and Watson of the 60th, Post 2

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending the Georgia Optometric Association on its 100th anniversary and inviting Dr.
2 Jerry Prchal to appear before the House of Representatives; and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, on July 14, 1904, the Georgia Optical Association [the forerunner of the
4 Georgia Optometric Association (GOA)] was formed under the leadership of President C.E.
5 Fulsom; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the first Georgia optometry law was enacted in 1916; and
- 7 WHEREAS, the practice of optometry in Georgia has undergone many changes in the past
8 century, including greatly expanded requirements for professional training and tremendous
9 scientific advancements in the equipment used for evaluating vision and eye health problems;
10 and
- 11 WHEREAS, the Georgia Optometric Association was a leader among southern states in
12 adopting a strict set of rules of professionalism and ethics more than a half-century ago; and
- 13 WHEREAS, the membership of the GOA has grown steadily to more than 600; and
- 14 WHEREAS, members of the GOA believe strongly in providing quality vision and medical
15 eye care for all Georgians; and
- 16 WHEREAS, many GOA members have participated since 1991 in VISIONUSA, a program
17 that provides free eye exams for uninsured, low-income individuals and families; and
- 18 WHEREAS, the GOA has dedicated its 100th anniversary year to helping Georgia's children
19 see and learn better by focusing attention on the relationship between children's vision and
20 academic performance; and

1 WHEREAS, members of the GOA will celebrate this important anniversary by volunteering
2 under the VISIONUSA program to provide free eye exams to children of working parents
3 who have no health insurance covering eye exams; and

4 WHEREAS, the GOA will provide pamphlets to school nurses to help them recognize
5 potential eye health and vision problems among children in their schools; and

6 WHEREAS, the GOA will distribute news releases throughout the year focusing on
7 children's vision and eye health issues.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
9 the members of this body congratulate the Georgia Optometric Association on its 100 years
10 of service to Georgia optometrists and the people of Georgia and for its efforts to help
11 Georgia's children see and learn better and invite Dr. Jerry Prchal to appear before the House
12 of Representatives at a date and time to be determined by the Speaker of the House.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
14 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Dr. Jerry Prchal, president
15 of the Georgia Optometric Association.