

## Senate Resolution 717

By: Senators Meyer von Bremen of the 12th, Brown of the 26th, Harp of the 16th and Harbison of the 15th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Commending the Georgia Optometric Association on its 100th anniversary; and for other  
2 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 SENATE that the members of this body  
9 congratulate the Georgia Optometric Association on its 100 years of service to Georgia  
10 optometrists and the people of Georgia and for its efforts to help Georgia's children see and  
11 learn better.

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