**A** **CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

TO PROCLAIM THE YEAR 2020 AS “THE YEAR OF THE EYE EXAM” AND FEBRUARY 20, 2020, AS “EYE HEALTH AWARENESS DAY” IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Whereas, eye health and vision care are important to the overall health and wellness of all Americans, yet up to sixteen million Americans struggle with undiagnosed or untreated vision impairments; and

Whereas, eye diseases, vision loss, and eye disorders create an estimated 139 billion-dollar economic burden; and

Whereas, the simplest step in helping to protect vision and to get early diagnosis of and treatment for visual-system diseases like glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness, is to make a comprehensive eye exam part of annual health care routines with America’s primary eye health care providers, doctors of optometry; and

Whereas, the South Carolina Optometric Physicians Association and member doctors of optometry educate the public each year on the importance of eye health and vision care; and

Whereas, during the year of 2020, citizens are encouraged and urged to consider the importance of eye health and to take care of their vision and health by making an appointment for an in‑person, comprehensive eye exam. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

That the members of the South Carolina General Assembly, by this resolution, proclaim the year 2020 as “The Year of the Eye Exam” and February 20, 2020, as “Eye Health Awareness Day” in South Carolina.

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