## A MEMORIAL

## RECOGNIZING THE NEW MEXICO OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION FOR HIGHLIGHTING THE IMPORTANCE OF VISION HEALTH.

WHEREAS, eye health and vision care are important to overall health and wellness, 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 one-hundred-thirty-nine-billion-dollar $(\$ 139,000,000,000)$ economic burden; and

WHEREAS, having a comprehensive eye examination with a doctor of optometry as part of a person's annual health care routine is the simplest step that a person can take to help protect the person's vision and ensure early diagnosis and treatment of visual system diseases, such as glaucoma, a leading cause of blindness; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico optometric association, the American optometric association and member doctors of optometry serve as a nationwide force for vision and health and are committed to educating and informing policymakers, employers, the news media and the public about essential eye health and vision care; and

WHEREAS, throughout 2020, the New Mexico optometric association is encouraging people to understand the

HM 22
Page 1
importance of eye health and to take care of their vision and health by making an appointment for an in-person, comprehensive eye examination;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that recognition be extended to the New Mexico optometric association for highlighting the importance of vision health; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be transmitted to the president of the New Mexico optometric association.

