

A RESOLUTION honoring Darlene Eakin.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this body recognize the contributions of those Kentuckians who have given of their time and talent to this Commonwealth in exemplary ways; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Eakin is one such Kentuckian. Mrs. Eakin served as executive director of the Kentucky Optometric Association and Kentucky Optometric Foundation from 1986 until 2015, executive director of the Kentucky Vision Project from 1985 until 2015, and as a Kentucky Optometric Association legislative agent for 38 years; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the Institutes for Organizational Management, Darlene Eakin is a proud member of the American Society of Association Executives, the Kentucky and American Public Health Associations, the National Rural Health Association, and was a past member of the Kentucky Society of Association Executives board of trustees and a founding member of the Kentucky Rural Health Association. She also served as president of the Kentucky Society of Association Executives and the Kentucky Rural Health Association; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Eakin is a member of many optometric associations, including the International Association of Optometric Executives and the American Optometric Association's Federal Relations Committee, and has been honored with myriad awards for her service, including the Kentucky Optometric Association's President Award three times, the Kentucky Optometric Association's 30-Year Award of Merit, the American Optometric Association's Executive Director of the Year, *Vision Monday's* 50 Most Influential Women in Optical, the Kentucky Special Olympics Dedication of Service Award, and the KSAE President's Award of Excellence; and

WHEREAS, this body rightfully honors Darlene Eakin on this day upon her retirement; commends her for her lifetime of service to the people of this Commonwealth and her exemplary contributions to the field of optometry; and acknowledges her husband, David Eakin, her children, Heather and Jonathon, and her grandchildren for the

support they have given her throughout her remarkable career;

NOW, THEREFORE,

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔Section 1. The members of the Senate hereby honor Darlene Eakin upon her retirement, and commend her for her service to the Kentucky Optometric Association.

➔Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Darlene Eakin.

➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to Senator Julian M. Carroll for delivery.