

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 6051

A RESOLUTION commemorating the University of Kansas Department of Ophthalmology's Centennial and designating February 19, 2014, as KU Eye Day.

WHEREAS, The University of Kansas founded the Department of Ophthalmology, commonly known as KU Eye, on January 1, 1914. Since its residency program began in 1946, 146 residents have graduated. The KU Eye Center opened its second clinic in March 2013; and

WHEREAS, Of the 250 licensed ophthalmologists in Kansas, 44 of them are KU Eye alumni. A top priority of the residency program is to increase the number of residents in the program, as more ophthalmologists are needed to increase the accessibility and availability of quality vision care in Kansas; and

WHEREAS, KU Eye's strategy is threefold. First, to build a credible, academically-centered clinical practice encompassing all aspects of ophthalmology. Second, to develop the research program around the concept of a Center for Ophthalmic Engineering with emphases on optics, refractive surgery, intraocular approaches and biomechanics of the eye. Many conditions of the eye, including glaucoma, retinal and neuro-ophthalmic diseases, as well as tissue engineering and genetic determinants of ocular physiology and pathology, can be explored using engineering principles. Third, to develop a competency-based residency program as opposed to the traditional process-based program to better meet the needs of the ophthalmology trainees and the Kansas general public; and

WHEREAS, KU Eye's vision is to be acknowledged as the most highly regarded center for eye care in the heart of America and be recognized among the top tier of the most respected centers in the nation; and

WHEREAS, KU Eye's mission is to establish and maintain a world-class eye care center that provides exceptional patient care, delivers the most advanced graduate and postgraduate medical education and conducts innovative basic and clinical research; and

WHEREAS, KU Eye physicians and staff have several values: Providing patients with the highest quality eye care within a compassionate atmosphere; engaging in outreach through education and collaboration to promote excellence in eye care throughout the community; working closely in consultation with and support of the physicians and staff of the University of Kansas Hospital and Medical Center; performing cutting-edge, basic, clinical and applied research in ophthalmology and vision science; and inspiring students, residents and fellows to adopt the core values and support the mission of KU Eye; and

WHEREAS, KU Eye will celebrate its Centennial throughout 2014 with many events, including the Quarterly Century of Caring Lecture Series beginning in February 2014, the grand opening of the new KU Eye Surgery and Laser Center in April 2014, the 5th annual Kansas EyeCon CME Conference in May 2014, and an Awareness Walk with Sight Buddies to promote World Sight Day in October 2014: Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we commemorate the 100th Anniversary of the Department of Ophthalmology and designate February 19, 2014, as KU Eye Day.

I hereby certify that the above RESOLUTION originated in the HOUSE, and was adopted by that body

Speaker of the House.

Chief Clerk of the House.