

1 SJR125  
2 161390-1  
3 By Senator Waggoner  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 03-APR-14

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8 COMMENDING DR. ROB PATE FOR BEING SELECTED AS THE  
9 AMERICAN OPTOMETRIC ASSOCIATION'S YOUNG OPTOMETRIST OF THE  
10 YEAR.

11  
12 WHEREAS, highest commendations and congratulations  
13 are herein proudly presented to Dr. Rob Pate on his  
14 outstanding achievement of being selected as the American  
15 Optometric Association's Young Optometrist of the Year; and

16 WHEREAS, Dr. Pate will receive the national honor at  
17 Optometry's Meeting in Philadelphia on June 25, 2014; and

18 WHEREAS, Dr. Pate has cultivated a distinguished  
19 career as an optometrist and has demonstrated exceptional  
20 involvement as a standout member of the Alabama Optometric  
21 Association; and

22 WHEREAS, as an optometrist, who exhibits an  
23 unwavering commitment to excellence, he is know for being the  
24 first to volunteer for a tough assignment; and

25 WHEREAS, Dr. Pate served the InfantSee Committee as  
26 chairman in 2012, during which time he traveled to every local  
27 optometric society to lecture on the program and how to

1 perform the exam in addition to providing ideas on  
2 implementation of the program within all optometric offices;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, in 2010, he volunteered to serve as a  
5 legislative keyperson for the meritorious organization, and he  
6 served as a "Team Leader" for the entity's keyperson structure  
7 in 2014; he served the Birmingham Area Optometric Society as  
8 President for the past year and was recently elected to serve  
9 on the ALOA Board of Directors; and

10 WHEREAS, a passionate humanitarian, Dr. Pate became  
11 a volunteer for the Alabama Special Olympics while attending  
12 the UAB School of Optometry, where he graduated in 2007; since  
13 2012, he has chaired the Eyecare Section for the Special  
14 Olympics, for which he organizes, promotes, and directs eye  
15 exams at the state games on the campus of Troy University; in  
16 addition, he has participated in a number of volunteer health  
17 screenings; and

18 WHEREAS, he is very involved with his local school  
19 district, where he serves as the team optometrist for the  
20 Spain Park middle and high school athletes, and he organizes  
21 and performs eye screenings for the Hoover middle and high  
22 school athletes; he also serves as a preceptor for the Hoover  
23 High School Science Academy, providing job shadowing  
24 internships to high school seniors participating in the Health  
25 Science Academy; and

26 WHEREAS, Dr. Pate has received a number of accolades  
27 for his admirable work; and

1           WHEREAS, Dr. Pate authored the book, A Tiger's Walk:  
2           Memoirs of an Auburn Football Player, which was inspired by  
3           his football career at Auburn University; he hosts a weekly  
4           radio show, Eyes on Auburn, and writes a bi-weekly column for  
5           AuburnSports.com; during the college football season, he  
6           co-hosts a live online broadcast during Auburn games; and

7           WHEREAS, he serves as an ordained Deacon of the  
8           Double Oak Community Church, where he teaches Sunday School  
9           for seventh grade boys; he is a member of the Hoover Rotary  
10          Club, which he has served as Secretary-Treasurer; furthermore,  
11          he has performed refractions for deploying National Guard  
12          soldiers for gas mask inserts at Fort McClellan; and

13          WHEREAS, Dr. Pate and his beautiful wife, Dana, are  
14          the parents of five children; and

15          WHEREAS, through the years, Dr. Pate has earned  
16          immense respect for his tireless dedication and tremendous  
17          abilities; his hard work, ingenuity, and genuine concern for  
18          others reflect immense honor upon the entire State of Alabama,  
19          and he is truly deserving of the significant honor bestowed  
20          upon him; now therefore,

21          BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
22          HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That Dr. Rob Pate is highly honored  
23          and commended, and this resolution is offered to him in  
24          deepest admiration and appreciation, along with sincere best  
25          wishes for continued success in all future endeavors.