

2021 AOA HOUSE OF DELEGATES

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

LETTER ASSIGNED: C TITLE: The Optometric Oath

SOURCE: AOA Board of Trustees

STATUS: Referred to the House of Delegates

DATE: June 23, 2021 TIME: 9:30 a.m. MT

NOTE: Wording in the current Resolution 1847 proposed to be deleted ~~lined-out~~
Wording in the current Resolution 1847 proposed to be added underscored

1 WHEREAS, over the years numerous optometric organizations and the schools and
2 colleges of optometry have developed and utilized an optometric oath; and
3 WHEREAS, the American Optometric Association has always supported and endorsed the
4 highest standards, ethics and ideals for the profession of optometry; now
5 therefore be it
6 RESOLVED, that the following statement be adopted as the oath of the optometric
7 profession:
8 THE OPTOMETRIC OATH
9 With full deliberation I freely and solemnly pledge that:
10 I affirm that the health of my patient will be my first consideration.
11 I will practice the art and science of optometry faithfully and conscientiously,
12 and to the fullest scope of my competence.
13 I will uphold and honorably promote by example and action the highest
14 standards, ethics and ideals of my chosen profession and the honor of the
15 degree, Doctor of Optometry, which has been granted me.
16 I will provide professional care for ~~those~~ the diverse populations who seek my
17 services, with concern, with compassion and with due regard for their human
18 rights and dignity, and work to expand access to quality care and improve
19 health equity for all communities.

20 I will place the treatment of those who seek my care above personal gain and
21 strive to see that none shall lack for proper care.

22 I will hold as privileged and inviolable all information entrusted to me in
23 confidence by my patients.

24 I will advise my patients fully and honestly of all which may serve to restore,
25 maintain or enhance their vision and general health.

26 I will strive continuously to broaden my knowledge and skills so that my
27 patients may benefit from all new and efficacious means to enhance the care
28 of human vision.

29 I will share information cordially and unselfishly with my fellow ~~optometrists~~
30 doctors of optometry and other professionals for the benefit of patients and
31 the advancement of human knowledge and welfare.

32 I will do my utmost to serve my community, my country and humankind as a
33 citizen as well as an doctor of optometry~~optometrist~~.

34 I hereby commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this my solemn
35 oath and obligation; and be it further

36 RESOLVED, that the ~~American Optometric Association~~ AOA encourages all state and local
37 optometric associations and the schools and colleges of optometry to endorse
38 and to employ the Optometric Oath whenever appropriate.

**THE FOLLOWING IS PROVIDED AS SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION AS YOU
CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF THIS RESOLUTION.**

POSSIBLE FISCAL IMPLICATIONS: After consultation with the AOA Secretary/Treasurer,
the potential cost to the AOA of this resolution, if adopted, would be approximately: None.