

By Senator Braynon

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1 Senate Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing the successes and
3 humanitarian efforts of the Bascom Palmer Eye
4 Institute of the University of Miami Miller School of
5 Medicine, and expressing appreciation for the Bascom
6 Palmer Eye Institute's relief efforts in Japan in the
7 aftermath of the devastating earthquake and tsunami
8 that struck the region in March 2011.
9

10 WHEREAS, the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University
11 of the Miami Miller School of Medicine is the largest ophthalmic
12 care, research, and educational center in the southeastern
13 United States, where more than 250,000 patients with nearly
14 every ophthalmic condition are treated each year and more than
15 12,000 surgeries are performed annually, and

16 WHEREAS, in its annual "best hospitals" edition, U.S. News
17 & World Report has, for the past 8 years, consistently ranked
18 the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute as the nation's best in the
19 field of ophthalmology and has ranked it the number one or
20 number two eye hospital in the country each year since the
21 rankings were first published in 1990, awarding it the number
22 one spot 10 times, and

23 WHEREAS, the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute's doctors and
24 scientists are recognized international leaders in their fields
25 of expertise in every subspecialty in ophthalmology, including
26 macular, retinal, and optic nerve diseases, cataracts, eye
27 infections, eye cancers, and eye diseases in children, and

28 WHEREAS, the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute has mobilized its
29 resources and staff to offer eye care following catastrophic

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30 natural disasters in several parts of the world, and

31 WHEREAS, on April 14, 2011, the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
32 embarked on an international rescue mission, deploying its
33 physicians and Vision Van in the Japanese city of Sendai, just a
34 day after Sendai's airport reopened following the catastrophic
35 March 11 earthquake and tsunami, and

36 WHEREAS, the relief efforts of Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
37 in Japan enabled Japanese ophthalmologists to provide emergency
38 medical relief to their people by equipping them to offer
39 emergency vision screenings and treatments for people suffering
40 from eye injuries incurred during or after the earthquake, as
41 well as infections and inflammations from contaminated water and
42 other hazards, and to replace eyeglasses lost while fleeing the
43 earthquake, and

44 WHEREAS, the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute has been
45 instrumental in making a lasting difference by its provision of
46 medical care to the people of Japan as well as by training and
47 providing resources that allow Japanese ophthalmologists to
48 better serve those in need, NOW, THEREFORE,

49
50 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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52 That the members of the Senate recognize the humanitarian
53 efforts of the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of
54 Miami Miller School of Medicine and commend its steadfast
55 dedication to excellence.