

Title: Presentation of Vision Screening Programs for Pre-school and School Age Children

Introduced by: Theresa Cooney, MD, for the Michigan Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons and Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation

Original Author: Patrick J. Droste, MD

Referred to: Reference Committee E

House Action:

Whereas, vision screening for pre-school and school age children has been an established and effective method of screening for eye problems in children for many years, and

Whereas, vision screening programs have been shown to be a cost effective method of detecting strabismus (“crossed eyes”), amblyopia (“lazy eye”), media opacities (cataract) and reduced vision in pre-school and school age children, and

Whereas, vision screening programs for pre-school and school age children serve as the frontline defense for the early detection and treatment of eye disease in children, and

Whereas, State budget constraints are resulting in the discontinuation of funding for county and state programs for vision screening in pre-school and school age children; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) urge state and county governments to continue to support the development of effective vision screening programs for pre-school and school age children; and be it further

RESOLVED: That MSMS encourage county and state governments to continue financial support to maintain and improve vision screening programs for pre-school and school age children.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE