



Advancing America's Opticians

10341 Democracy Lane
Fairfax, Virginia 22030-2521
703/691-8355 or
800-443-8997
FAX #703/691-3929

e-mail: aaa@opticians.org - Website: <http://www.opticians.org>

Statement of Patrick Langone, Opticians Association of America President

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1998-2000

Officers:

President
Patrick R. Langone

1st Vice President
H. Russell Toler, Jr.

2nd Vice President
Earl M. Cleaveland

Secretary-Treasurer
Arthur V. Clancy, Jr.

Past President
Gary R. Alken

Directors:
J. Frank Adkins

Judith M. Canty

Mark S. Cloer

William C. Duff, Jr.

Beverly Harper

Alan S. Hunton

J. Dart Messick

Michael H. Morozin

Joseph B. Solscho

Mary Szczerblak

Executive Director
David A. Digby

The Opticians Association of America is pleased to announce its support of H.R. 2723, the "Bipartisan Consensus Patient Protection Bill." OAA has been working for the past several years in an effort to achieve meaningful and substantive managed care reforms.

OAA believes there are two critical issues which must be addressed in meaningful managed care reform. These issues are:

1. Antidiscrimination language which bars managed care organizations from discriminating against a health care provider solely on the basis of the provider's licensure or certification; and
2. A meaningful point-of-service option which truly offers consumers the ability to choose their own health care provider.

H.R. 2723, the "Bipartisan Consensus Patient Protection Bill" covers both of these issues, and therefore OAA endorses H.R. 2723 and will work for its passage by the House this year.

CO-OP PARTICIPANTS

American Optical
Lunten Delatour
Lux De Paris
Luxoptics Group
Nationally International
National Optonics