



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

## Proclamation

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization estimates that the eyesight of one-fourth of the world's population can be improved by the use of corrective lenses; recycling a pair of eyeglasses costs as little as eight cents in the United States, however, the expense of correcting poor vision is enormous to those in developing countries, making the ownership of a pair of glasses both unaffordable and inaccessible; and

WHEREAS, Poor eyesight, if left untreated, can cause blindness or force adults into unemployment, yet, in developing areas of the world this is often the case because in many countries an eye examination can cost as much as one month's salary; and

WHEREAS, for more than 80 years, individual Lions clubs and districts in the United States, Canada and several other countries have been committed to meeting the demand for quality eyeglasses in developing nations throughout the world, and in October 1994 the Lions Eyeglasses Recycling Program was adopted as an official service activity of the Lions Clubs International; and

WHEREAS, Lions members generously volunteer their time and services by collecting used eyeglasses for donation, cleaning, repairing and classifying those donations by prescription and distributing the eyeglasses through other Lions clubs hosting optical missions in various countries; and

WHEREAS, By demonstrating a repeated devotion to helping others, the concerned and compassionate members of the New Jersey Lions Club have earned the respect and admiration of all who know of their efforts and have set the standard for community service that other organizations might emulate; and

WHEREAS, The vitality of the communities of New Jersey and those throughout the world depend, in great measure, upon dedicated organizations like the Lions Clubs International, whose New Jersey Multiple District 16 uses its resources to better the lives of those in need by meeting the demand for quality eyeglasses in developing countries and providing services to the visually impaired who cannot afford standard eye care;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

**MAY 2011**

**AS**

**EYEGLOSS RECYCLING MONTH**

*in New Jersey.*



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this ninth day of May in the year two thousand eleven, the two hundred thirty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR