

**SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 18**  
**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**  
**THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION**

**BY SENATOR COSTELLO**

**Introduced: 2/19/18**

**Referred: Health and Social Services**

**A RESOLUTION**

1    **Proclaiming November 2018 as Diabetic Eye Disease Awareness Month.**

2    **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3           **WHEREAS** one in four Americans age 65 and older has diabetes, which puts each of  
4 these individuals at increased risk for vision loss and blindness; and

5           **WHEREAS** both type one and type two diabetes can result in diabetic retinopathy,  
6 which causes the small blood vessels in the eyes to leak and grow irregularly; and

7           **WHEREAS** diabetic retinopathy can cause other blinding complications, such as  
8 macular edema, which causes swelling of the part of the eye responsible for detailed vision;  
9 and

10          **WHEREAS** diabetic retinopathy affects 30 percent of people living with diabetes; and

11          **WHEREAS** annual dilated eye examinations can help prevent 95 percent of diabetes-  
12 related vision loss;

13          **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature proclaims November 2018 as  
14 Diabetic Eye Disease Awareness Month.