

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.