

Introduced: 1/11/72  
Referred: Health, Welfare  
and Education

1 IN THE HOUSE

BY FISCHER

2 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

3 IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

4 SEVENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

5 Relating to certain vision care  
6 provided by the Department of  
7 Health and Social Services.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

9 WHEREAS commonly accepted standards of eye care dictate that a person  
10 in need of eye glasses should have, at a minimum, a refraction, vision  
11 analysis, verification and proper fitting of eyewear; and

12 WHEREAS vision care authorities estimate that 80 per cent of all learn-  
13 ing is accomplished through visual perception; and

14 WHEREAS the Department of Health and Social Services currently contracts  
15 for eye glasses, and its system entails the use of mail order procedures  
16 with no provision or opportunity for proper verification and fitting for the  
17 recipient of the glasses received via the mail; and

18 WHEREAS many persons in Alaska, because of this practice of the Depart-  
19 ment of Health and Social Services, are denied the opportunity to have eye-  
20 wear that fits properly and that has not been subject to common quality  
21 control standards of the Optometric profession; and

22 WHEREAS the many persons furnished eyewear by the Department of Health  
23 and Social Services are entitled to the same standard of care that is given  
24 to the average private patient;

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska Legislature that it respectfully requests  
26 the Governor to direct the Department of Health and Social Services to  
27 discontinue the practice of obtaining eye glasses on a mail order basis and  
28 to adopt a method of providing visual care that affords adequate protection  
29 to the patient.