



Legislation Text

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**File #:** Res 1142-2000, **Version:** \*

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Res. No. 1142

Resolution acknowledging the month of January to be National Glaucoma Awareness Month and calling on all New Yorkers to promote Glaucoma awareness.

By Council Members Clarke, Malave-Dilan, Espada, Fisher, Freed, Koslowitz, Lasher, Linares, Nelson, Warden and Abel; also Council Members Eisland, Foster, Harrison, Leffler, Marshall, Michels, O'Donovan, Perkins, Rivera and Spigner.

Whereas, Glaucoma is a progressive disease of the eye that affects an estimated 4 million Americans; and

Whereas, About half of these people don't even know that they have the disease; and

Whereas, It is extremely difficult for a person with glaucoma to detect the disease in its early stages without a proper glaucoma exam; and

Whereas, The only effective method of early detection and treatment of glaucoma, which is the second leading cause of preventable blindness, is to make sure people are informed about the disease and encourage people to have regular eye and glaucoma exams; and

Whereas, African Americans and people of African descent are more likely to go blind from glaucoma than any other racial group; and

Whereas, Routine eye exams are extremely important for everybody but it is especially important that groups at high risk for glaucoma - people who are over 65 years of age, African Americans, people with previous ocular injury, people with a family history of glaucoma and diabetic patients - get regular glaucoma exams; and

Whereas, Once detected, there are many ways to treat glaucoma including eye drops, surgery and drugs; and

Whereas, New technologies to treat glaucoma are being developed every day; and

Whereas, The best defense in fighting glaucoma is detecting the disease early and therefore, more than anything else, it is education and awareness that will be most effective; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York acknowledges the month of January to be National Glaucoma Awareness Month and calls on all New Yorkers to promote Glaucoma awareness.

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