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R E S O L U T I O N

WHEREAS, The observance of National Glaucoma Awareness Month in January 2022 provides an important opportunity to promote awareness of this leading cause of irreversible blindness; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than three million people in the U.S. suffer from glaucoma, a group of eye diseases characterized by damage to the optic nerve; there are virtually no symptoms associated with open-angle glaucoma, the most common form, and approximately half of those who have any type of glaucoma do not know that they have the disease; and

WHEREAS, While there is not yet a cure, early detection is critical to slowing optic nerve damage and saving eyesight in glaucoma patients; the need for greater awareness is especially important in a number of high-risk groups, including senior citizens, individuals with diabetes, and people with a family history of glaucoma; individuals in these categories are encouraged to receive comprehensive dilated eye exams to identify the disease early and begin treatment; and

WHEREAS, Diagnosis is the first step in the fight against glaucoma, and making eye care an essential part of a regular health maintenance program is vital to protecting and preserving our vision; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 87th Texas Legislature hereby recognize National Glaucoma Awareness Month in January 2022 and urge all residents of the Lone Star State to become informed about glaucoma detection and treatment.