

Proclamation



Office of the Mayor

Whereas, Save Your Eyes Now is part of a public eye health awareness campaign to provide Texans access to quality eye care and health education; and,

Whereas, the Save Your Eyes Now campaign supports the goals of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention-Vision Health Initiative and Prevent Blindness Texas by striving to raise public and healthcare awareness that preventative care, knowledge, and thorough eye care are keys to staying healthier; and,

Whereas, approximately 21.2 million people in the United States have diabetes, reaching epidemic proportions while remaining undetected in a large population of residents and another 55 million people are estimated to have pre-diabetes; and,

Whereas, it is estimated 1.2 million people in Texas, according to the 2009 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, have been diagnosed with diabetes with an additional 984,142 residents with pre-diabetes-a condition that significantly raises the risk of developing Type 2 diabetes; and,

Whereas, diabetes can lead to serious health consequences, including heart disease, stroke, blindness, kidney disease, amputations, and even death, with the total diabetes related cost in Texas estimated to be \$3.7 billion per year; and,

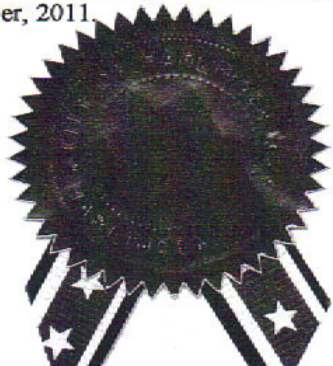
Whereas, many of these consequences and resulting costs, can be avoided or delayed through early detection and on-going monitoring and treatment, increasing the number and quality of years of health life for Texas residents; and,

Whereas, the Save Your Eyes Now Campaign was established in response to what continues to be a rapidly-escalating epidemic among children and adults in the United States and Texas specifically; and,

Whereas, regular comprehensive eye exams have been proven to be an important and cost-effective measure in detecting the disease and managing its impact, this day is a call to Texas residents to take responsibility for their health through greater knowledge and understanding and to incorporate positive preventative care health behaviors into their lives; and,

Whereas, the Save Your Eyes Now Campaign supports the Texas optometry & ophthalmology professionals who work with community organizations and partners, such as the Texas Optometric Association, Texas Ophthalmology Association, Prevent Blindness Texas, Eye Care America and VSP Vision Care to improve the health and wellness of Texas residents; and,

NOW THEREFORE, let it be proclaimed this day, August 17, 2011, that the City of Harlingen proclaim the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Prevent Blindness Texas Save Your Eyes Now/Proteja Su Vista Hoy public vision health awareness campaign for the month of September, 2011.



Handwritten signature of Chris Boswell in black ink.

Chris Boswell, Mayor

Attest:

Handwritten signature of Amanda C. Elizondo in black ink.

Amanda C. Elizondo, City Secretary