

By: Senator Elliott

SENATE RESOLUTION

TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF MARCH AS NATIONAL
COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

Subtitle

TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF MARCH AS
NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS
MONTH.

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States with more than 150,000 Americans diagnosed and more than 50,000 American deaths each year; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer affects both men and women of all racial and ethnic groups and is most often found in people who are 50 years of age or older; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is a disease that affects people whether they are male or female, overweight or thin, young or old; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer may begin as non-cancerous polyps that can become cancerous, and many precancerous polyps and colorectal cancers do not exhibit symptoms, therefore intensifying the importance of a screening test for colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer screening tests can find precancerous polyps so they can be removed before they turn into cancer, and screening tests can also detect the presence of colorectal cancer early enough for treatment to lead to a cure; and



WHEREAS, 9 out of 10 colorectal cancers could be prevented or successfully treated with regular colorectal cancer screenings; and

WHEREAS, the United States Preventive Services Task Force recommends regular screening for colorectal cancer for all people who are between 50 and 75 years of age, and for some people who are older than 75 years of age; and

WHEREAS, the American College of Gastroenterology recommends that African American patients begin screening for colorectal cancer at age 45; and

WHEREAS, when colorectal cancer is detected and treated early, the five-year survival rate is over 90%; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness of colorectal cancer and colorectal cancer screening saves lives; and

WHEREAS, March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the Senate acknowledges the profound impact of colorectal cancer on the lives of Arkansans, supports the medical belief that colorectal cancer screening tests can prevent and cure this disease, urges the citizens of the state to obtain colorectal screenings at 50 years of age, 45 years of age for African Americans, and recognizes the month of March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.