

By: Representative C. Fite

HOUSE 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 one hundred fifty thousand (150,000) Americans diagnosed and more than fifty thousand (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 fifty (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, nine (9) out of ten (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 fifty (50) and seventy-five (75) years of age, and for some people who are older than seventy-five (75) years of age; and

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

WHEREAS, when colorectal cancer is detected and treated early, the five-year survival rate is over ninety percent (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 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives of the Ninety-First General Assembly of the State of Arkansas 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 fifty (50) years of age, forty-five (45) years of age for African Americans, and recognizes the month of March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.