

Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R16-1103.01 Kurt Woock x4349

SJR16-012

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Martinez Humenik and Todd,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Primavera and Sias,

Senate Committees

House Committees

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-012

101 CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF MARCH 2016 AS COLORECTAL
102 CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

1 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly
2 diagnosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer deaths for
3 men and women in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer affects men and women equally;
5 and

6 WHEREAS, Every 3 minutes, someone is diagnosed with
7 colorectal cancer, and every 10 minutes, someone dies from colorectal
8 cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2016, physicians will diagnose an estimated

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

1 134,490 new cases of colorectal cancers in the United States, including
2 1,790 new cases in Colorado; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2016, the disease will kill an estimated 49,190
4 individuals in this country, including 650 in Colorado; and

5 WHEREAS, The vast majority of colon cancer deaths can be
6 prevented through proper screening and early detection; and

7 WHEREAS, Only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have
8 their cancers detected at an early stage; and

9 WHEREAS, The survival rate of individuals who have early-stage
10 colorectal cancer is about 90 percent but is only about 10 percent when
11 diagnosed after it has spread to other organs; and

12 WHEREAS, If the majority of people in the United States age 50
13 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from
14 this disease could plummet by up to 70 percent; and

15 WHEREAS, African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian
16 Americans, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives are significantly less
17 likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Caucasians; and

18 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and
19 beatable in most cases; and

20 WHEREAS, Observing a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month
21 during the month of March would provide a special opportunity to offer
22 education on the importance of early detection and screening; and

23 WHEREAS, Education can help inform the public of methods of
24 prevention and the early detection of symptoms; and

25 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society is taking a leadership
26 role in educating the public on the methods of prevention and symptoms
27 for early detection; and

28 WHEREAS, State governments have a leadership role to play in
29 fighting colorectal cancer by enhancing public education and improving
30 awareness of early detection through the shared goal of 80 percent of
31 adults age 50 and older being regularly screened for colorectal cancer by

1 2018; and

2 WHEREAS, The Colorado Department of Public Health and
3 Environment should continue to coordinate an aggressive educational
4 program concerning colorectal cancer in conjunction with the medical
5 community and the American Cancer Society; now, therefore,

6 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly*
7 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

8
9 (1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly,
10 encourage the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment,
11 in cooperation with the medical community, the American Cancer
12 Society, and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, to
13 continue coordinating an aggressive educational program concerning
14 colorectal cancer with the goal of having 80 percent of adults aged 50 and
15 older regularly screened for colon cancer by 2018; and

16 (2) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly,
17 proclaim the month of March 2016 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness
18 Month in the state of Colorado.

19 *Be It Further Resolved,* That a copy of this resolution be sent to the
20 Great West Division of the American Cancer Society, the American
21 Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, and the Colorado Department of
22 Public Health and Environment.