



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-012

BY SENATOR(S) Martinez Humenik and Todd, Aguilar, Baumgardner, Carroll, Cooke, Crowder, Donovan, Garcia, Grantham, Guzman, Heath, Hill, Hodge, Holbert, Jahn, Johnston, Jones, Kefalas, Kerr, Lambert, Lundberg, Marble, Merrifield, Neville T., Newell, Roberts, Scheffel, Scott, Sonnenberg, Steadman, Tate, Ulibarri, Woods, Cadman; also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Primavera and Sias, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Brown, Buck, Buckner, Carver, Conti, Coram, Court, Danielson, DelGrosso, Dore, Duran, Esgar, Everett, Fields, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Hamner, Humphrey, Joshi, Kagan, Klingenschmitt, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, Leonard, Lontine, Lundeen, McCann, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Moreno, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pabon, Pettersen, Priola, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Roupe, Ryden, Saine, Salazar, Singer, Thurlow, Tyler, Van Winkle, Vigil, Willett, Williams, Wilson, Windholz, Winter, Wist, Young, Hullinghorst.

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

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

WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer affects men and women equally; and

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

WHEREAS, In 2016, physicians will diagnose an estimated 134,490 new cases of colorectal cancers in the United States, including 1,790 new cases in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, In 2016, the disease will kill an estimated 49,190

individuals in this country, including 650 in Colorado; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, State governments have a leadership role to play in fighting colorectal cancer by enhancing public education and improving awareness of early detection through the shared goal of 80 percent of adults age 50 and older being regularly screened for colorectal cancer by 2018; and

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

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

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

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

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

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Bill L. Cadman  
PRESIDENT OF  
THE SENATE

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Dickey Lee Hullinghorst  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Effie Ameen  
SECRETARY OF  
THE SENATE

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Marilyn Eddins  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES