



2007 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 70

December 3, 2007 - Introduced by Senators RISSER, WIRCH, KEDZIE, HANSEN, ROESSLER, DARLING, OLSEN, COWLES and COGGS, cosponsored by Representatives BOYLE, HINES, SHERIDAN, BERCEAU, A. OTT, JORGENSEN, TURNER, WASSERMAN, ALBERS, HIXSON, HINTZ, PETROWSKI, SUDER, HAHN, ZEPNICK, BENEDICT, GRIGSBY, BIES, NASS, A. WILLIAMS, STEINBRINK and ZIEGELBAUER. Referred to Committee on Senate Organization.

- 1 **Relating to:** designating the month of March in each year as Colorectal Cancer
2 Awareness Month.
- 3 Whereas, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer found in men and
4 women in this country; and
- 5 Whereas, more than 145,000 Americans will be diagnosed with colorectal
6 cancer and more than 55,000 Americans will die from colorectal cancer this year; and
- 7 Whereas, in Wisconsin nearly 2,350 people will be diagnosed with colorectal
8 cancer and approximately 930 will die in the next year from the disease; and
- 9 Whereas, colorectal cancer affects people regardless of their age, race, or sex;
10 and
- 11 Whereas, men have a slightly higher rate of colorectal cancer than women; and
- 12 Whereas, African-Americans have a higher rate of colorectal cancer incidence
13 and death than Caucasians; and
- 14 Whereas, colorectal cancer is one of the most detectable and, if found early, most
15 treatable forms of cancer; and

1 Whereas, the five-year survival rate is 90 percent when colorectal cancer is
2 diagnosed at the localized stage, but the survival rate is only 10 percent when
3 colorectal cancer is not diagnosed until the distant stage; and

4 Whereas, screening and early detection saves lives; and

5 Whereas, many incidences of colorectal cancer, and deaths resulting from
6 colorectal cancer, could be prevented if more people took advantage of colorectal
7 cancer screening; and

8 Whereas, colorectal cancer can be prevented through early identification and
9 removal of precancerous polyps, detectable only through screening; and

10 Whereas, early detection is the key to survival against colorectal cancer and
11 more than half of all colorectal cancers can be prevented by early screening; and

12 Whereas, nine out of ten colorectal cancer cases are diagnosed in people over
13 the age of 50, yet less than half of all Wisconsinites age 50 or older have had a
14 recommended colorectal cancer screening in the past five years; and

15 Whereas, in comparison 70 percent of female Wisconsinites have had
16 mammograms; and

17 Whereas, many factors contribute to the low screening rate for colorectal
18 cancer, such as lack of public education and awareness about prevention and
19 screening, negative attitudes about screening procedures, and the absence of
20 symptoms; now, therefore, be it

21 ***Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That*** the legislature
22 designates March of each year as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and
23 encourages all Wisconsinites to get the appropriate screenings to prevent colorectal
24 cancer; and, be it further

