

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

RESOLUTION

INTRODUCED \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_

District

BY \_\_\_\_\_, NO. \_\_\_\_\_

District

BY \_\_\_\_\_, NO. \_\_\_\_\_

District

BY \_\_\_\_\_, NO. \_\_\_\_\_

District

BY \_\_\_\_\_, NO. \_\_\_\_\_

District

BY \_\_\_\_\_, NO. \_\_\_\_\_

See next page for additional co-sponsors.

<b>Referred to Committee on</b>	
Date _____	20 _____
Reported _____	20 _____
<b>As Committed-Amended</b>	
<b>Recommendation</b>	
_____	
<b>By Hon.</b> _____	



## A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2024 as "Colorectal Cancer  
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is cancer in either the colon or  
4 the rectum; and

5 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is usually related to polyps which  
6 form in the colon or rectum and can spread through nearby  
7 tissues or lymph nodes and possibly spread to other organs; and

8 WHEREAS, Symptoms of colorectal cancer can include blood in  
9 or on stool, stomach pain, aches or cramps that do not go away  
10 and unexplained weight loss; and

11 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is a serious diagnosis that can  
12 upend a person's life; and

13 WHEREAS, One in 24 people will be diagnosed with colorectal  
14 cancer in their lifetime; and

15 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly  
16 diagnosed cancer; and

17 WHEREAS, In 2023, an estimated 153,020 new cases of

1 colorectal cancer will be diagnosed in the United States; and

2 WHEREAS, A colonoscopy is the gold standard of colon cancer  
3 screening because the procedure can both diagnose colon cancer  
4 and remove polyps that can become cancerous; and

5 WHEREAS, A colonoscopy limits the likelihood of new cases of  
6 colon cancer by 69% and reduces the chance of dying by 88%; and

7 WHEREAS, The Department of Health recommends that a person be  
8 screened for colorectal cancer between 45 and 75 years of age,  
9 as the risk of developing colorectal cancer increases with age;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, Just 66% of Pennsylvania adults over 45 years of age  
12 have been screened for colorectal cancer; and

13 WHEREAS, Screening for colorectal cancer is important because  
14 symptoms may not be present, especially in early stages; and

15 WHEREAS, Sixty-eight percent of deaths from colorectal cancer  
16 could be prevented with screening; and

17 WHEREAS, The five-year survival rate of localized colorectal  
18 cancer is 90%; and

19 WHEREAS, There are more than 1.5 million colorectal cancer  
20 survivors in the United States; and

21 WHEREAS, Some patients with colorectal cancer have a  
22 temporary or permanent stoma, or opening in the abdomen,  
23 following surgery and an estimated 750,000 to 1,000,000  
24 Americans have an ostomy; and

25 WHEREAS, Rates of colorectal cancer are different across race  
26 and ethnicity; and

27 WHEREAS, Black Americans are 20% more likely to have  
28 colorectal cancer and 40% more likely to die from it; and

29 WHEREAS, Native communities face the highest rate of cases  
30 out of any ethnic group; and

1       WHEREAS, Incidence rates for colorectal cancer have declined  
2 more than 50% between 1985 and 2020; and

3       WHEREAS, Despite the decline in this disease over the past  
4 four decades, colorectal cancer is still the second most deadly  
5 cancer in this Commonwealth; and

6       WHEREAS, Among the top five most deadly cancers, colorectal  
7 cancer is the only one that does not have its own research  
8 program and dedicated funding stream; therefore be it

9       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the  
10 month of March 2024 as "Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month" in  
11 Pennsylvania.

