



SPONSOR: Sen. Hall-Long & Rep. Heffernan & Sen. McBride & Sen. Henry & Sen. Lopez & Rep. Bentz & Rep. Bolden & Rep. Briggs King;
Sens. Blevins, Bushweller, Cloutier, Hocker, Lavelle, McDowell, Peterson, Poore, Richardson, Simpson; Reps. Baumbach, Brady, Dukes, Gray, Hensley, Hudson, Keeley, Kenton, Lynn, Miro, Mitchell, Osienski, Outten, Ramone, Schwartzkopf, D. Short, M. Smith, Spiegelman, Viola, Wilson

DELAWARE STATE SENATE
148th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 7

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2016 AS "COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH".

- 1 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States; and
2 WHEREAS, more than 134,490 adults are diagnosed with colorectal cancer each year; and
3 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that there will be 430 new cases of colorectal cancer and 150
4 colorectal cancer deaths in Delaware in 2016; and
5 WHEREAS, the death rate for colorectal cancer in Delaware is 14.6%; and
6 WHEREAS, comparing the 1997-2001 and 2007-2011 time periods, Delaware's colorectal cancer incidence rate
7 declined 28.7%, while the U.S. incidence rate declined 20.8%; and
8 WHEREAS, for the 2007-2011 time period, Delaware's colorectal cancer incidence rate among African
9 Americans was 43.6 per 100,000, lower than the national average for the first time since cancer surveillance efforts began;
10 and
11 WHEREAS, when adults are screened for colorectal cancer, it can be detected early and, in some cases, can be
12 prevented; and
13 WHEREAS, in 2012, Delaware ranked 4th in the United States for the number of colorectal cancer screenings; and
14 WHEREAS, data from the 2012 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance survey revealed that nearly 76% of
15 Delawareans age 50 and older had been screened for colorectal cancer; and
16 WHEREAS, for the 2007-2011 time period, 55% of all colorectal cancer cases in Delaware were detected in the
17 regional or distant stages after the cancer had spread from its original location; and
18 WHEREAS, the percentage of regional and distant cancer diagnoses reflected a 13.7% decrease since 1997-2001;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, approximately 1 in 3 adults between the ages of 50 and 75, equaling approximately 23 million people
21 nationwide, have not been screened for colorectal cancer as recommended; and

22 WHEREAS, Hispanics, rural populations, men, 50- to 64-year-olds, and low education and low-income
23 populations are less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer; and

24 WHEREAS, the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable, an organization co-founded by the American Cancer
25 Society and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, is working toward the goal of having 80% of adults aged 50
26 and older screened for colorectal cancer by the year 2018.

27 NOW, THEREFORE:

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate and House of Representatives of the 148th General Assembly of the State of
29 Delaware, with the approval of the Governor, that March 2016 is recognized as “Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month” and
30 all citizens of Delaware are urged to recognize this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Delaware embraces the goal of screening 80% of Delawareans
32 aged 50-75 for colorectal cancer by 2018.

SYNOPSIS

This joint resolution designates March 2016 as “Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month” in the State of Delaware.

Author: Senator Hall-Long