

1 State of Arkansas
2 89th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2013

SR 24

4
5 By: Senator Elliott

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7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF MARCH AS NATIONAL
9 COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

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11 **Subtitle**

12 TO RECOGNIZE THE MONTH OF MARCH AS
13 NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS
14 MONTH.

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17 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths
18 in the United States with more than 150,000 Americans diagnosed and more than
19 50,000 American deaths each year; and

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21 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer affects both men and women of all racial and
22 ethnic groups and is most often found in people who are 50 years of age or
23 older; and

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25 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is a disease that affects people whether
26 they are male or female, overweight or thin, young or old; and

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28 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer may begin as non-cancerous polyps that can
29 become cancerous, and many precancerous polyps and colorectal cancers do not
30 exhibit symptoms, therefore intensifying the importance of a screening test
31 for colorectal cancer; and

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33 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer screening tests can find precancerous polyps
34 so they can be removed before they turn into cancer, and screening tests can
35 also detect the presence of colorectal cancer early enough for treatment to
36 lead to a cure; and



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2 WHEREAS, 9 out of 10 colorectal cancers could be prevented or
3 successfully treated with regular colorectal cancer screenings; and
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5 WHEREAS, the United States Preventive Services Task Force recommends
6 regular screening for colorectal cancer for all people who are between 50 and
7 75 years of age, and for some people who are older than 75 years of age; and
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9 WHEREAS, the American College of Gastroenterology recommends that
10 African American patients begin screening for colorectal cancer at age 45;
11 and
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13 WHEREAS, when colorectal cancer is detected and treated early, the
14 five-year survival rate is over 90%; and
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16 WHEREAS, increased public awareness of colorectal cancer and colorectal
17 cancer screening saves lives; and
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19 WHEREAS, March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month,
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21 NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
23 STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 THAT the Senate acknowledges the profound impact of colorectal cancer
26 on the lives of Arkansans, supports the medical belief that colorectal cancer
27 screening tests can prevent and cure this disease, urges the citizens of the
28 state to obtain colorectal screenings at 50 years of age, 45 years of age for
29 African Americans, and recognizes the month of March as National Colorectal
30 Cancer Awareness Month.
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