

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 2002 as Colorectal  
Cancer Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is one of the most prevalent  
yet one of the most preventable types of cancer and is the  
third most common type among all cancer cases in Florida, and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have colon or rectal cancer  
without exhibiting any symptoms, and

WHEREAS, compliance with American Cancer Society  
screening guidelines has the potential to lower the number of  
colorectal cancer cases through early detection and removal of  
polyps before they become cancerous, and, through detection of  
the disease during its early stages when there is a high rate  
of cure, may also lower deaths resulting from the disease, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society, Florida Division,  
is launching a statewide education and awareness campaign to  
increase public awareness of the risks associated with  
colorectal cancer and to urge compliance with the society's  
recommended screening guidelines, and

WHEREAS, among those that have been identified as most  
at risk for contracting colon and rectal cancers are the  
elderly, African Americans, and Hispanics, and the American  
Cancer Society will target those groups in a special effort to  
increase their understanding of the importance of screening  
that may lower the incidence of cancer and of measures that  
may be taken to prevent the disease, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
Florida:

1           That the House of Representatives recognizes the month  
2 of March 2002 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in Florida,  
3 commends the American Cancer Society, Florida Division, for  
4 its efforts to stem the tide of colorectal cancer, and urges  
5 all residents to take advantage of this year's campaign in  
6 order to gain a better understanding of the risks of  
7 contracting the disease and of the benefits of screening  
8 toward its prevention.  
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