

By Senator Aronberg

27-2117-06

Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 2006 as "Colon
Cancer Awareness Month."

WHEREAS, colon cancer is one of the most prevalent
cancers, yet in most cases it is preventable, and

WHEREAS, among cancer cases in Florida, colon cancer is
the second most common cause of death among adult men and
women, and

WHEREAS, it is possible to have colon or rectal cancer
yet not to have any cancer symptoms, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that
9,970 new cases of colon cancer will be diagnosed among
Floridians during the year 2006, and that 3,700 will die from
the disease, and

WHEREAS, the risk for colon cancer is highest among
older adults, with more than 90 percent of all colon and
rectal cancers diagnosed in adults aged 50 or older, and

WHEREAS, Floridians can significantly lower the number
of incidents of colon cancer and consequent deaths by
complying with the American Cancer Society's screening
guidelines for colon and rectal cancer, which include
beginning testing at age 50, and

WHEREAS, approximately 44 percent of Floridians age 50
and older report never having received a sigmoidoscopy or
colonoscopy examination, which are two of the screening
examinations recommended by the American Cancer Society, and

WHEREAS, regular screenings may lower death rates by
detecting the disease at its earliest and most treatable
stages, and may also prevent some cancers by detecting and
enabling the removal of precancerous polyps, NOW, THEREFORE,

1 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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3 That the month of March 2006 is recognized as "Colon
4 Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida and all men and women are
5 urged to understand the risks associated with colon cancer,
6 take preventive steps to minimize those risks, and undergo
7 early-detection procedures in compliance with the American
8 Cancer Society's recommended screening guidelines for colon
9 cancer.

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