

HR 9137

2006

## House Resolution

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

WHEREAS, colon cancer, one of the most prevalent but most preventable of cancers, is the second most common cause of cancer death among adult men and women in Florida, and

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

WHEREAS, it is possible to have colon cancer without having any symptoms of the disease, and

WHEREAS, it is possible for Floridians to significantly lower the number of incidents of colon cancer and deaths from this disease by adhering to the American Cancer Society colon cancer screening guidelines, which include regular testing beginning at the age of 50, and

WHEREAS, although the risk for colon cancer is highest among older adults, with more than 90 percent of all such cancers being diagnosed in adults 50 years of age or older, approximately 44 percent of Floridians in this age group report never having undergone a sigmoidoscopy or a colonoscopy, two of the screening techniques 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

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28 | and may prevent the development of some cancers through the  
29 | detection and subsequent removal of polyps, NOW, THEREFORE,

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31 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
32 | Florida:

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34 |       That the House of Representatives recognizes the month of  
35 | March 2006 as "Colon Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida and  
36 | urges all men and women to avail themselves of a better  
37 | understanding of the risks associated with colon cancer, to take  
38 | preventive steps to minimize those risks, and to undergo early  
39 | detection procedures as recommended by the American Cancer  
40 | Society colon cancer screening guidelines.