

2026 -- H 8235

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2026

HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MARCH OF 2026 AS "COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH"
IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Cotter, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale, Alzate,
Santucci, Ackerman, Boylan, Spears, and Carson

Date Introduced: March 05, 2026

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society encourages the citizens of the State of Rhode
2 Island to observe March, 2026, as "Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month"; and

3 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths
4 among men and women combined in Rhode Island as well as in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, in 2026 there will be an
6 estimated 154,270 new cases of colon and rectal cancer in the United States and 52,900 deaths
7 from colorectal cancer. In Rhode Island, it is estimated that there will be 430 new cases of
8 colorectal cancer in 2026, and 150 deaths from colorectal cancer; and

9 WHEREAS, When colorectal cancer is found early, it has a survival rate of 90 percent,
10 but left undetected, survival rates for colorectal cancer can plummet to 15 percent; and

11 WHEREAS, There are often no symptoms of colorectal cancer, but regular screenings
12 can significantly reduce the number of deaths from this disease by detecting cancerous or pre-
13 cancerous conditions early, when treatment is most effective; and

14 WHEREAS, Education can help inform the public of methods of early detection and
15 prevention. Colorectal cancer is largely preventable with screening tests that find and remove pre-
16 cancerous polyps; and

17 WHEREAS, Working with the legislature, the American Cancer Society remains
18 committed and dedicated to informing the public about colorectal cancer prevention and
19 screening; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby
2 proclaims March of 2026, as "Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month"; and be it further

3 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
4 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the American Cancer Society, and President
5 Amy S. Oxentenko, MD, FACG, American College of Gastroenterology.

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