

2020 -- S 2899

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING MARCH, 2020, AS "COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING MONTH" IN
THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Maryellen Goodwin

Date Introduced: June 17, 2020

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

1 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United
2 States for men and women combined; and

3 WHEREAS, In 2019, more than 145,600 Americans will be diagnosed with colorectal
4 cancer and approximately 51,000 Americans will die from it; and

5 WHEREAS, Approximately 60 percent of colorectal cancer cases and 70 percent of
6 deaths occur in those aged 65 and older; and

7 WHEREAS, Although colorectal cancer is largely preventable, one in three adults over
8 50 years of age are not up to date with recommended colorectal cancer screening; and

9 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy allows for the detection and
10 removal of polyps, or abnormal growths, that could become cancerous, as well as for the early
11 detection of colorectal cancer when treatment can be most effective; and

12 WHEREAS, The Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates that if all precancerous
13 polyps were identified and removed before becoming cancerous, the number of new colorectal
14 cancer cases could be reduced by 76 to 90 percent; and

15 WHEREAS, A colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy is a highly effective preventive
16 service, but for too many Americans, the screenings either aren't fully covered by their health
17 insurance or aren't affordable due to high out-of-pocket costs; and

18 WHEREAS, Annually, medical expenditures related to treating colorectal cancer costs
19 about \$14 billion; and

1 WHEREAS, On March 6, 2019, H.R.1570 - Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer
2 Screening Act of 2019, which would eliminate unexpected costs for Medicare beneficiaries when
3 a polyp is discovered and removed, was introduced in the United States Congress; and

4 WHEREAS, If Americans received regular screenings for colorectal cancer, thousands of
5 deaths could be prevented each year; now, therefore be it

6 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
7 hereby recognizes the importance of regular colorectal cancer screening and proclaims March,
8 2020, to be "Colorectal Cancer Screening Month"; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That this Senate hereby urges the United States Congress to support and
10 pass H.R.1570 - Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act of 2019; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
12 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Rhode Island Cancer Action Center, and
13 members of the Rhode Island Congressional delegation.

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