

1 A RESOLUTION urging the United States Congress to remove barriers to  
2 colorectal cancer screening.

3 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among  
4 men and women combined in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, in 2016, more than 130,000 Americans will be diagnosed with  
6 colorectal cancer and approximately 50,000 Americans will die from it; and

7 WHEREAS, approximately 60 percent of colorectal cancer cases and 70 percent of  
8 deaths occur in those aged 65 and older; and

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

12 WHEREAS, although colorectal cancer is largely preventable, one in three adults  
13 between the ages of 50 and 75 are not up to date with recommended colorectal cancer  
14 screening; and

15 WHEREAS, over 200 organizations have committed to eliminating colorectal  
16 cancer as a major public health problem and are working toward the shared goal of  
17 reaching 80 percent screened for colorectal cancer by 2018; and

18 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer screening colonoscopy is a highly effective  
19 preventive service, and removing financial barriers can help to increase screening rates;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, the Kentucky age-adjusted rate of colon cancer is 56.3 per 100,000  
22 population, which is the highest in the nation; and

23 WHEREAS, Kentucky has the fifth highest mortality rate from colon cancer in the  
24 nation at 18.7 per 100,000;

25 NOW, THEREFORE,

26 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*  
27 *Kentucky:*

1           ➔Section 1. The Senate urges the United States Congress to amend Section  
2 1833(a)(1)(Y) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395l(a)(1)(Y)) to include coverage  
3 for a colorectal cancer screening test, regardless of the code that is billed, for the  
4 establishment of a diagnosis as a result of the test or for the removal of tissue or other  
5 procedure that is furnished in connection with, as a result of, and in the same clinical  
6 encounter as the screening test.

7           ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate shall send a copy of this Resolution to each  
8 member of the Kentucky delegation in the Congress of the United States.