
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 676 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY DONATUCCI, SCHLOSSBERG, LUCAS, BISHOP, DIGIROLAMO,
P. DALEY, CONKLIN, MICOZZIE, BOBACK, VEREB, SCHLEGEL CULVER,
READSHAW, KORTZ, SONNEY, KILLION, MUSTIO, JAMES, CAUSER,
CUTLER, KIM, YOUNGBLOOD, MILLARD, HENNESSEY, GODSHALL,
MIRABITO, BARRAR, PAINTER, FREEMAN, BAKER, THOMAS, PICKETT,
LONGIETTI, STERN, GROVE, FLYNN, MCNEILL, GRELL, GOODMAN,
ROSS, COHEN, D. COSTA, GINGRICH, FRANKEL, MAJOR, GIBBONS,
MAHONEY, BROWNLEE, ROCK, GILLEN, MARSICO, HARHART, MURT,
PETRI, KINSEY, ROEBUCK, WATSON, FLECK, QUINN AND MCCARTER,
MARCH 10, 2014

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 10, 2014

A RESOLUTION

1 Observing the month of March 2014 as "National Colorectal Cancer
2 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, According to the Prevent Cancer Foundation,
4 colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death
5 among men and women in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, In its Cancer Facts & Figures 2013 report, the
7 American Cancer Society stated that in 2013 physicians diagnosed
8 142,820 new cases of colorectal cancer in the United States,
9 with the diagnoses affecting 73,680 men and 69,140 women
10 nationwide and 7,330 Pennsylvanians; and

11 WHEREAS, The Prevent Cancer Foundation found that in 2013
12 physicians diagnosed nearly 142,820 new cases of colorectal
13 cancer in the United States and that 50,830 people succumbed to

1 the disease; and

2 WHEREAS, According to the National Cancer Institute, if
3 everyone 50 years of age or older would have regular colorectal
4 cancer screening tests, at least 60% of colorectal cancer deaths
5 could be prevented each year because of early detection and
6 treatment, including the removal of polyps, grape-like growths
7 on the wall of the intestine, before they become cancerous; and

8 WHEREAS, Prevention of colorectal cancer can be highly
9 dependent on dietary factors, and adopting a healthy diet at a
10 young age can significantly reduce the risk of developing
11 colorectal cancer; and

12 WHEREAS, Since 1999, March has been designated as National
13 Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month by the Prevent Cancer
14 Foundation, the American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy,
15 the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable and the Foundation for
16 Digestive Health and Nutrition; and

17 WHEREAS, National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month aims to
18 generate widespread awareness about colorectal cancer and to
19 encourage people to learn more about how to prevent the disease
20 through a healthy lifestyle and regular screenings, and
21 education can help inform the public of methods of prevention
22 and symptoms of early detection; and

23 WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer can almost always be cured if
24 detected in its early stages; and

25 WHEREAS, Regular screening tests detect colon polyps before
26 they become cancerous, save lives and reduce mortality by both
27 decreasing incidents and detecting a higher proportion of cancer
28 at early, more treatable stages; therefore be it

29 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives observe the month
30 of March 2014 as "National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month" in

1 Pennsylvania and urge its residents to follow these actions to
2 prevent colorectal cancer by:

3 (1) Being physically active for at least 30 minutes a
4 day, at least five days a week.

5 (2) Maintaining a healthy weight.

6 (3) Quitting smoking.

7 (4) Having not more than one drink a day for women and
8 two drinks a day for men.

9 (5) Eating fruits, vegetables and whole grains to remain
10 healthy and fit.

11 (6) Reducing the intake of red meat and cutting out
12 processed meat.

13 (7) Beginning regular screening at 50 years of age for
14 colorectal cancer and earlier for those at higher risk. The
15 best time for a screening to occur is when a person has no
16 symptoms.

17 (8) Talking to a doctor about tests for cancer, such as
18 a colonoscopy, virtual colonoscopy, a flexible sigmoidoscopy,
19 a double-contrast barium enema, a stool occult blood test, a
20 stool immunochemical test and a stool DNA test;

21 and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives urge its members,
23 the Department of Health and health care professionals across
24 this Commonwealth to promote "National Colorectal Cancer
25 Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania to increase awareness about the
26 disease and how to prevent it through a healthy lifestyle and
27 proper screenings.