

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 16  
2 BY HANSEN, HEATON, JOCHUM, and MURPHY  
3 A Concurrent Resolution requesting that the Governor  
4 annually designate the month of March as Colorectal  
5 Cancer Awareness Month.  
6 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society reports that  
7 colon and rectum cancer is the third most common  
8 cancer among men and women and the second leading  
9 cause of cancer deaths in the United States; and  
10 WHEREAS, every year over 130,000 new cases of colon  
11 and rectum cancer and 56,300 deaths from colon and  
12 rectum cancer are reported in the United States and  
13 more than 1,900 new cases and 800 deaths from colon  
14 and rectum cancer are reported in Iowa; and  
15 WHEREAS, in Iowa, African-Americans have a higher  
16 rate of colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rate  
17 and thus should be especially vigilant in informing  
18 themselves of the risks and need for screening; and  
19 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recommends  
20 that, beginning at age 50, people with an average risk  
21 of developing cancer should consult with a physician  
22 about having regular testing for colon and rectum  
23 cancer as part of an regular annual examination; and  
24 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society reports that  
25 survival from colon and rectum cancer is inversely  
26 related to the stage of cancer at the time of  
27 detection and the five-year survival rate is increased  
28 to 90 percent when the cancer is detected early and  
29 confined; and  
30 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is one of the most

HCR 16

1 curable of all cancers if detected in its earliest  
2 stages; and

3 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to promote  
4 public awareness of the benefits and values of early  
5 detection, prevention, and treatment of colon and  
6 rectum cancer; and

7 WHEREAS, improved public awareness of the disparity  
8 in funding for colon and rectum cancer research, as  
9 compared to the research funding for other major fatal  
10 diseases, can help bring a halt to this inequity and  
11 assist in saving lives; and

12 WHEREAS, it is appropriate for the State of Iowa to  
13 join with all citizens throughout the state in  
14 recognizing the importance of this disease; NOW  
15 THEREFORE,

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE  
17 SENATE CONCURRING, That the Governor is requested to  
18 annually proclaim the month of March as Colorectal  
19 Cancer Awareness Month, to promote early detection,  
20 prevention, and treatment of colorectal cancer, and to  
21 encourage people to be screened according to American  
22 Cancer Society guidelines; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon passage of this  
24 Resolution, an official copy shall be transmitted to  
25 the Governor.

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