74th OREGON LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY - 2007 Regular Session MEASURE: HJR 34 A

STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee on Health Policy & Public Affairs

REVENUE: No revenue impact FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Adopt the A-Engrossed Measure

Vote: 3 - 0 - 2

Yeas: Gordly, Kruse, Monnes Anderson

Navs: 0

Exc.: Carter, Courtney

Prepared By: Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator

Meeting Dates: 5/16

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Designates month of March in each year as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month (NCRCAM).

CARRIER: Sen. Monnes Anderson

ISSUES DISCUSSED: Provisions of the measure.

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Colorectal cancer is cancer of the colon and/or rectum. Colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer in both men and women, striking them in equal numbers, and it is also the second leading cause of cancer death in the United States. Colorectal cancer is one of the most preventable cancers because polyps can be removed before they become cancerous.

In 2004, approximately 146,000 people in the United States were diagnosed with colorectal cancer and approximately 56,000 people died from the disease. NCRCAM's goal is to increase awareness about colorectal cancer and encourage people to learn about how to prevent the disease through regular screening tests and a healthy lifestyle.

In Oregon, nearly 1,900 people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 700 will die in the next year from the disease; nine out of ten colorectal cancer cases are diagnosed in people over the age of 50, yet less than half of all Oregonians age 50 or older have had a recommended colorectal cancer screening in the past five years.