

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

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Action: Be Adopted  
Vote: 5 - 0 - 0  
Yeas: Carter, Gordly, Kruse, President Courtney, Monnes Anderson  
Nays: 0  
Exc.: 0  
Prepared By: Shannon Strumpfer, Administrator  
Meeting Dates: 1/29

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Declares the month of March in each year as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Comprehensiveness of colonoscopies and their ability to detect and remove polyps
- Higher incidence of colorectal cancer in African-Americans and males
- Ability for public awareness and communication about colonoscopies to significantly reduce the number of colorectal cancer diagnoses

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:** Colorectal cancer (commonly referred to as “colon” cancer) develops in the lower part of the digestive system, also referred to as the gastrointestinal, or GI, system. The digestive tract processes the food you eat and rids the body of solid waste matter. This cancer usually develops from precancerous changes or growths in the lining of the colon and rectum. These growths in the colon or rectum are called *polyps*.

In 2007, an estimated 153,760 new cases of colon cancer will be diagnosed in the United States. Of these new cancer cases, 112,340 will be colon cancer and 41,420 will be rectal cancer. An estimated 52,180 deaths due to colon cancer are expected to occur in 2007, accounting for about 10 percent of cancer deaths this year in the United States.

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*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*

Committee Services Form - 2007 Regular Session