

# Senate Joint Resolution 9

Sponsored by Senator COURTNEY (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Designates month of March in each year as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month.

## JOINT RESOLUTION

1  
2       Whereas colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer found in men and women in this  
3 county; and

4       Whereas more than 145,000 Americans will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and more than  
5 55,000 Americans will die from colorectal cancer this year; and

6       Whereas in Oregon nearly 1,900 people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 700 will  
7 die in the next year from the disease; and

8       Whereas colorectal cancer affects people regardless of their age, race or sex; and

9       Whereas men have a slightly higher rate of colorectal cancer than women; and

10       Whereas African-Americans have a higher rate of colorectal cancer incidence and death than  
11 Caucasians; and

12       Whereas colorectal cancer is one of the most detectable and, if found early, most treatable forms  
13 of cancer; and

14       Whereas the five-year survival rate is 90 percent when colorectal cancer is diagnosed at the  
15 localized stage, but the survival rate is only 10 percent when colorectal cancer is not diagnosed  
16 until the distant stage; and

17       Whereas screening and early detection saves lives; and

18       Whereas many incidences of colorectal cancer, and deaths resulting from colorectal cancer,  
19 could be prevented if more people took advantage of colorectal cancer screening; and

20       Whereas colorectal cancer can be prevented through early identification and removal of  
21 precancerous polyps, detectable only through screening; and

22       Whereas early detection is the key to survival against colorectal cancer and more than half of  
23 all colorectal cancers can be prevented by early screening; and

24       Whereas 9 out of 10 colorectal cancer cases are diagnosed in people over the age of 50, yet less  
25 than half of all Oregonians age 50 or older have had a recommended colorectal cancer screening in  
26 the past five years; and

27       Whereas in comparison 70 percent of female Oregonians have had mammograms; and

28       Whereas many factors contribute to the low screening rate for colorectal cancer, such as lack  
29 of public education and awareness about prevention and screening, negative attitudes about  
30 screening procedures and the absence of symptoms; now, therefore,

31 **Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:**

32       That we, the members of the Seventy-fourth Legislative Assembly, join in designation of the

**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

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1 month of March in each year as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and highly encourage all  
2 Oregonians to get the appropriate screenings to prevent colorectal cancer; and be it further

3 Resolved, That we express our gratitude to the families and caretakers of all colorectal cancer  
4 patients in Oregon; and be it further

5 Resolved, That we honor those Oregonians we have lost to colorectal cancer, desire to provide  
6 hope to those that are fighting against this disease and celebrate the survivors of colorectal cancer.

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