

1 SJR99  
2 192997-2  
3 By Senators Dial, Albritton, Allen, Beasley, Blackwell,  
4 Brewbaker, Bussman, Chambliss, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Figures,  
5 Glover, Hightower, Holley, Holtzclaw, Livingston, Marsh,  
6 McClendon, Melson, Orr, Pittman, Reed, Sanders, Sanford,  
7 Scofield, Shelnutt, Singleton, Smith, Smitherman, Stutts,  
8 Waggoner, Ward, Whatley and Williams  
9 RFD:  
10 First Read: 13-MAR-18

1 SJR99

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4 ENROLLED, SJR99,

5 RECOGNIZING MARCH 2018 AS COLORECTAL CANCER  
6 AWARENESS MONTH IN ALABAMA.

7  
8 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second most common  
9 cause of cancer deaths for men and women in Alabama; and

10 WHEREAS, in the United States, the lifetime risk of  
11 being diagnosed with cancer of the colon or rectum is 5.5  
12 percent for men and 5.1 percent for women; and

13 WHEREAS, the vast majority of colon cancer deaths  
14 can be prevented through proper screening and early detection;  
15 and

16 WHEREAS, if 80 percent of adults were screened for  
17 colon cancer by 2018, there would be 203,000 fewer deaths due  
18 to colon cancer by 2030; and

19 WHEREAS, the survival rate of individuals who have  
20 colorectal cancer is 90 percent when detected in the early  
21 stages versus only 10 percent survival rate when colorectal  
22 cancer is diagnosed after it has spread to other organs; and

23 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates 2,230  
24 cases of colorectal cancer will be diagnosed in Alabama this  
25 year and 950 people will die from the disease; and

1           WHEREAS, deaths from colorectal cancer occur  
2           disproportionately among those who are underserved or  
3           underinsured; and

4           WHEREAS, when detected early, the five-year survival  
5           rate for colon cancer is 90 percent; however, only 39 percent  
6           of colorectal cancers are diagnosed at this stage, mostly due  
7           to low rates of screening; and

8           WHEREAS, five-year survival rates decline  
9           dramatically when colorectal cancer is diagnosed in later  
10          stages; and

11          WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Public Health  
12          administers the FITWAY Alabama Colorectal Cancer Prevention  
13          Program, which aims to increase colorectal cancer screening  
14          rates in the state through public information initiatives  
15          about the importance of screening for early detection; and

16          WHEREAS, funding for the FITWAY Alabama program is  
17          approved by the Legislature and the Governor; and

18          WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society supports FITWAY  
19          Alabama because early detection saves lives; and

20          WHEREAS, greater awareness of colon cancer and the  
21          means to prevent it could save the lives of hundreds of  
22          Alabamians every year; and

23          WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is preventable,  
24          treatable, and beatable in most cases; and

1           WHEREAS, observing Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month  
2 during the month of March 2018 would provide a special  
3 opportunity to offer education on the importance of early  
4 detection and screening; now therefore,

5           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
6 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we recognize the importance of  
7 colorectal screenings and encourage Alabamians who are 50 and  
8 over to get a colorectal screening.

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we recognize March 2018  
10 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in Alabama.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR99  
Senate 13-MAR-18  
I hereby certify that the within Senate Joint Resolution  
originated in and was adopted by the Senate.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives  
Adopted: 20-MAR-18

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By: Senator Dial