

By: Jones

H.R. No. 2526

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of  
2 cancer deaths in Texas, and it is estimated that over the next  
3 decade, as many as 100,000 men and women will be diagnosed with the  
4 disease, resulting in some 40,000 deaths; and

5           WHEREAS, This type of cancer most commonly begins as a polyp,  
6 or a growth of tissue that starts in the lining and grows into the  
7 center of the colon or rectum over a period of several years; and

8           WHEREAS, Although the exact cause of colorectal cancer is not  
9 known, risk factors include age--people over 50 are at greater  
10 risk--a previous history or family history of colorectal cancer, a  
11 history of polyps or of bowel disease, certain ethnic backgrounds  
12 and races, a diet high in fat, lack of exercise, smoking, alcohol,  
13 and diabetes; approximately 90 percent of colorectal cancer cases  
14 and deaths are thought to be preventable; and

15           WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society recommends that people  
16 with average risk get regular screening tests after the age of 50  
17 and that those with a history of colorectal cancer in their families  
18 seek advice from their doctors about detecting it early; in spite of  
19 the great benefit of screening, however, only about 40 percent of  
20 Texans above the age of 50 report having one of the recommended  
21 tests within the past five years; and

22           WHEREAS, Texans can reduce the risks associated with  
23 colorectal cancer by educating themselves on prevention methods,  
24 such as lifestyle changes, and by seeking early detection, and the

1 dedication of a specific year to draw attention to this disease can  
2 only serve to aid this worthy cause; now, therefore, be it

3       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas  
4 Legislature hereby recognize the year 2007 as Colon Cancer  
5 Prevention and Awareness Year in Texas and encourage all Texans to  
6 educate themselves on colorectal cancer and take necessary  
7 precautions to reduce their risk of this disease.