**SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 177**

**WHEREAS**, Colon cancer is a dangerous and all-too-common disease that afflicts individuals across the nation and around the globe, and a considerable number of cases of colon cancer arise from an inherited genetic condition; and

**WHEREAS**, Approximately 4.2 percent of the total U.S. population will develop some form of colon cancer in their lifetime; out of all colon cancer cases, about 5 to 10 percent are hereditary, meaning that they are linked to genetic mutations passed down by the individual's mother or father; overall, about one in every 200 people is born with an inherited condition that increases his or her chance of developing colon cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, Hereditary colon cancer conditions affect individuals at younger ages, often before regular colorectal cancer screenings begin at age 50; compounding the issue, medical professionals are frequently undertrained in the diagnosis and treatment of hereditary colon cancers, which can be an obstacle to effective and timely intervention; and

**WHEREAS**, Early screening and treatment are crucial to improving outcomes for patients with hereditary colon cancer; it is important to identify families with inherited syndromes linked to colorectal cancer or with a history of colorectal cancer or its associated risk factors; the members of such families may benefit from receiving regular screenings at a younger age than the standard recommendation; and

**WHEREAS**, Increased public awareness is a powerful weapon in the fight against colon cancer, and Texans can greatly benefit from assessing their family history of the disease and learning more about screening, genetic testing, counseling, and other actions that they can take to protect their health; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 87th Legislature, hereby recognize the fourth week of March 2021 as Hereditary Colon Cancer Syndrome Awareness Week and encourage all citizens to learn more about this serious condition.

Campbell

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