

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 15

BY SENATORS CLAITOR, ALLAIN, BUFFINGTON, GUILLORY, HEITMEIER AND
NEVERS

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To urge and request that the citizens of Louisiana recognize the life-saving benefits of routine colorectal screening examinations and schedule such examinations as deemed appropriate by their physicians.

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the third most common cancer occurring in the United States, with over one hundred forty thousand new patients diagnosed in the single year of 2012; and

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second most common cause of cancer deaths, with over fifty thousand patients dying in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the lifetime risk of developing colorectal cancer is one in twenty; and

WHEREAS, the overwhelming majority of colorectal cancer cases is preventable with routine screening examinations; and

WHEREAS, current screening guidelines recommend that all those persons age fifty and older obtain routine screening examinations, generally once every ten years; and

WHEREAS, screening guidelines recommend colorectal examinations starting at an earlier age if there is a family history of colorectal cancer or symptoms of colorectal cancer are experienced; and

WHEREAS, less than thirty percent of those for whom colorectal screening examinations are recommended are scheduling such diagnostic examinations; and

WHEREAS, colorectal specialists, primarily gastroenterologists, consult with surgeons to provide state-of-the-art, evidence-based appropriate surgical treatment for colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS, colorectal specialists work in conjunction with oncologists, radiologists, and other medical professionals to provide the most appropriate and beneficial medical treatment, resulting in optimal medical outcomes for colorectal cancer patients.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the life-saving benefits of routine colorectal screening examinations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge Louisianians to recognize the life-saving benefits of routine colorectal screening examinations and to schedule colorectal screening examinations as deemed appropriate by their physicians.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana further recognizes the critical role of medical specialists, especially those of gastroenterologists, oncologists, and radiologists, in providing the optimal medical outcomes for colorectal cancer patients in Louisiana.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES