



WHEREAS, colorectal cancer, for which there is currently no cure, is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States among men and women combined; and,

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening, but approximately 30 percent of patients eligible have not been screened for colorectal cancer; and,

WHEREAS, one in 23 men and one in 26 women will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in their lifetimes; and,

WHEREAS, an estimated 6,200 people were diagnosed and 2,110 lives were lost from colorectal cancer in 2023 in Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates are disproportionately higher among racial and ethnic minorities, with Black males in Illinois having the highest rate of new colorectal cancer at more than 39 new cases per 100,000 people and more than 18 deaths per 100,000 people; and,

WHEREAS, increasing screening colonoscopy rates of Americans ages 45 years and older to 80 percent could reduce the number of new colorectal cancer diagnoses by 22 percent and deaths from colorectal cancer by 33 percent by 2030; and,

WHEREAS, it is critical that all people of all ages know the signs and symptoms of the disease; and,

WHEREAS, observing Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March emphasizes the importance of early detection and screening;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim March 2024 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in Illinois.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-EIGHTH *day of* FEBRUARY *, in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-FOUR *, and of the State of Illinois,*
two hundred and FIFTH *.*

Alexi Giannouli
SECRETARY OF STATE

JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR