



Proclamation
In Recognition of
Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the U.S. among men and women combined; and

WHEREAS, every three minutes someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer and every ten minutes someone dies from colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS, the approximate 5-year survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent but it is only 10 percent when diagnosed after it has spread to other organs; and

WHEREAS, regular colorectal cancer screening is one of the most powerful weapons against colorectal cancer because it facilitates early diagnosis and prompt treatment; and

WHEREAS, only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage and African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Caucasians; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that in the year 2017 in the state of Hawai'i, there will be approximately 660 new diagnosed cases of cancers originating from the colorectum and 240 deaths related to colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS, the national goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to have 80 percent of Americans age 50 and older screened by 2018; and

WHEREAS, public education, awareness and understanding of the disease is necessary to encourage the public to have regular colorectal cancer screening and to refrain from smoking, maintain a healthy weight, exercise, eat less red meat and consume alcohol in moderation or not at all to reduce the risk of the disease;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 2017 as

“COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

in Hawai'i and encourage the citizens of the Aloha State to join us in raising awareness of colorectal cancer prevention and to urge early detection and treatment.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, on this seventeenth day of February 2017.

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i