



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the Empire State joins to support observances that raise awareness of health issues that affect people across our state, nation, and the world, such as the various types of cancer, including colorectal cancer; and

Whereas, colorectal cancer is a leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men and women in the United States; each year in New York State, more than 10,000 people develop colorectal cancer and more than 3,500 New Yorkers die from this disease; it is estimated that one in twenty people will develop colorectal cancer during their lifetime; and

Whereas, colorectal cancer occurs most often in older people; approximately 60% of people newly-diagnosed with colon cancer are age 65 and older, and 90% of all colorectal cancers are diagnosed after age 50; and

Whereas, about 75% of colorectal cancer occurs in people who have no known risk factors; while the causes of colorectal cancer are not well understood, scientists agree that the following factors increase a person's risk of developing this disease: age, family history and hereditary conditions, personal health history, obesity, physical inactivity, diet, and other lifestyle factors; and

Whereas, colorectal cancer often can be prevented through regular screenings that can detect small growths, called polyps, which can be removed before they develop into cancer; screening for colorectal cancer is a covered benefit through Medicaid as well as health plans participating in the New York State of Health, and the New York State Cancer Services Program offers colorectal cancer screening to eligible uninsured individuals in every county and New York City borough; and

Whereas, New Yorkers and people everywhere are called upon to raise their awareness of colorectal cancer and take preventive steps to safeguard their health and that of loved ones from this disease;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim March 2014 as

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this fifth day of March in the year two thousand fourteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor