

1 A RESOLUTION designating March 2024 as Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month
2 in Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, Dr. Whitney Jones, a Louisville gastroenterologist, started the Colon
4 Cancer Prevention Project in 2003 after diagnosing several patients with colorectal
5 cancer; and

6 WHEREAS, for over 20 years the project has worked to end preventable colorectal
7 cancer deaths and suffering in Kentucky by increasing effective screenings; and

8 WHEREAS, each year an average of 650 fewer Kentuckians are diagnosed with
9 colorectal cancer and 275 fewer Kentuckians die from colorectal cancer due to these
10 efforts; and

11 WHEREAS, Dr. Jones and the Colon Cancer Prevention Project have saved
12 numerous lives in Kentucky through advocacy, education, health system improvement,
13 and survivor support; and

14 WHEREAS, the General Assembly and citizens of Kentucky are immensely
15 grateful for the dedicated efforts and commitment of the Colon Cancer Prevention
16 Project; and

17 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer related
18 deaths in men and women in Kentucky, and Kentucky currently ranks among the highest
19 in the nation in colorectal cancer mortality; and

20 WHEREAS, by 2030, colorectal cancer is projected to be the leading cause of
21 cancer deaths in 20 to 49 year olds; and

22 WHEREAS, Kentucky continues to have the highest incidence of colorectal cancer
23 in the United States; and

24 WHEREAS, Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month is observed in March to highlight
25 the importance of screening for colorectal cancer, as well as to promote healthy lifestyle
26 habits that can decrease a person's risk of developing colorectal cancer;

27 NOW, THEREFORE,

1 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of*
2 *Kentucky:*

3 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby honors Dr. Whitney Jones and the exceptional
4 work of the Colon Cancer Prevention Project in saving lives in Kentucky and encourages
5 continued support for efforts to eliminate deaths from colorectal cancer.

6 ➔Section 2. The Senate hereby designates March 2024 as Colorectal Cancer
7 Awareness Month in Kentucky.

8 ➔Section 3. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
9 Resolution to Senator Stephen Meredith.