

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men and women combined in the United States; and

WHEREAS: It is estimated that in the year 2006, almost 150,000 new cases of colorectal cancer will be diagnosed in the US, while about 3500 individuals in Georgia were diagnosed with colorectal cancer in 2005; and

WHEREAS: Screening for colorectal cancer is underutilized, and less than 50 percent of individuals about age 50 receive annual screenings for colorectal cancer. Regular screenings can save lives by detecting the polyps that can lead to colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS: Adopting a healthy diet at a young age can significantly reduce the risk of developing colorectal cancer; and

WHEREAS: Education can help inform the public of methods of prevention and symptoms of early detection; now

THEREFORE: I, SONNY PERDUE, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim the month of March, 2006, as COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia and encourage our citizens to learn more about lifesaving prevention and screening methods for cancer.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this first day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand six.