

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

PROCLAMATION NO. _____

**Proclaiming March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in
Multnomah County, Oregon.**

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Finds:

- a. National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month is an opportunity to educate citizens about the importance of early detection and screening in order to prevent, treat and beat colorectal cancer.
- b. Every three minutes, someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer and every ten minutes someone dies from colorectal cancer. It is the third most diagnosed cancer and the second leading cause of all cancer deaths for men and women in the United States. Annually, approximately 140,000 Americans are diagnosed with colorectal cancer, and more than 50,000 people die from it.
- c. Only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage. The survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent but is only 10 percent when diagnosed after it has spread to other organs.
- d. African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Whites.
- e. Unless there is a family history or symptoms present, people don't get tested. If the majority of people in the United States age 50 (45 for African Americans) or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from this disease could plummet by up to 70 percent.
- f. Multnomah County strives to improve the health of its residents and has demonstrated this commitment by continuing to promote prevention, healthy public policy, and ensuring access to appropriate screenings.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

March as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon.

ADOPTED this 26th day of March, 2015.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON**

Deborah Kafoury, Chair

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Loretta Smith, District 2