

**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. Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second most common cause of cancer deaths for men and women in the United States. Every three minutes, someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer and every 10 minutes someone dies from colorectal cancer. It affects men and women equally.
- b. Colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable and beatable in most cases through proper screening and early detection. The survival rate of individuals who have early stage colorectal cancer is 90 percent, but the survival rate is only 10 percent when individuals are diagnosed after it has spread to other organs. If the majority of people in the United States age 50 or older were screened regularly for colorectal cancer, the death rate from this disease could plummet by up to 70 percent.
- c. Unfortunately, only 39 percent of colorectal cancer patients have their cancers detected at an early stage. African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Whites.
- d. Observing Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month provides a special opportunity to educate people about the importance of early detection and screening.

The Multnomah County Board of Commissioners Proclaims:

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

ADOPTED this 13th day of March, 2014.

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

, Chair

SUBMITTED BY: Commissioner Loretta Smith, District 2