

WHEREAS; according to the American Cancer Society, colorectal cancer, which encompasses cancers that start in the colon or rectum, is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States among men and women combined; and

WHEREAS; the American Cancer Society estimates that 106,970 Americans will be diagnosed with colon cancer, 46,050 Americans will be diagnosed with rectal cancer, and 52,550 Americans will lose their battle with one of these diseases in 2023 alone; and

WHEREAS; while colorectal cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening, such as a colonoscopy, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that approximately one in three adults between the ages of 50 and 75 are not getting tested as recommended; and

WHEREAS; the American Cancer Society reports that incidence rates of colorectal cancer are rising among young and middle-aged adults, which is why it is critical that people of all ages, races, genders, and identities know the signs and symptoms of the disease and remain diligent about staying up-to-date with recommended screenings; and

WHEREAS; the American Cancer Society further states that colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates are disproportionately high among people of color, and Black Americans, in particular, are 20 percent more likely to be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and about 40 percent more likely to die from the disease than other groups, while colorectal cancer is estimated to account for 11 percent of cancer deaths among Hispanic men and 9 percent of cancer deaths among Hispanic women; and

WHEREAS; disparities in health outcomes are not the consequence of individual habits or poor choices but rather are the result of inequities within the medical system that call for increased access to quality healthcare, including preventative healthcare and education; and

WHEREAS; the goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to increase regular colorectal cancer screening rates to 80 percent of eligible Americans in every community nationwide; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins patients, survivors, healthcare providers, and all those who have been affected by the disease across the state in raising awareness of the importance of early detection and screening for colorectal cancer;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim March 2023 as

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 3rd day of February 2023.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State