
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CANCER.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that "80% by 2018" is an
2 initiative by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable, a
3 working group established by the United States Centers for
4 Disease Control and Prevention and other national cancer control
5 stakeholders, in which organizations have committed to
6 eliminating colorectal cancer as a major public health problem
7 and are working toward the shared goal of getting eighty per
8 cent of adults aged fifty and older screened for colorectal
9 cancer by 2018.

10 The "80% by 2018" initiative is vital to reducing the
11 burden of cancer because:

12 (1) Colorectal cancer is the third leading cause of cancer
13 death in men and women in the United States, and a
14 cause of considerable suffering among more than one
15 hundred forty thousand adults diagnosed with
16 colorectal cancer each year;

17 (2) When adults get screened for colorectal cancer, it can
18 be detected early at a stage when treatment is most



1 likely to be successful, and in some cases, it can be
2 prevented through the detection and removal of
3 precancerous polyps;

4 (3) About twenty-three million people, which is about one
5 in three adults between fifty and seventy-five years
6 old, are not getting tested as recommended;

7 (4) The people less likely to get tested are rural
8 populations, men, those aged fifty to sixty-four, and
9 those with lower education and income;

10 (5) There are several recommended screening test options,
11 including colonoscopy, stool tests such as a guaiac
12 fecal occult blood test or fecal immunochemical test,
13 and sigmoidoscopy;

14 (6) Screening can save lives but only if people get
15 tested; and

16 (7) The best test is the test that gets done.

17 The legislature further finds that according to the United
18 States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention data, Hawaii's
19 current screening rate for colorectal cancer is sixty-four per
20 cent. Hawaii's screening rate, however, when compared to all



1 states ranks in the bottom half, indicating there is more work
2 to be done to increase colorectal cancer screening rates.

3 The legislature also finds that the "80% by 2018"
4 initiative's goal of increasing the colorectal cancer screening
5 rate to eighty per cent by 2018 will increase the quality of
6 life for hundreds of people in the State by detecting and
7 preventing death from late stage colorectal cancer and lessening
8 the physical, emotional, and financial burden that may come with
9 a cancer diagnosis.

10 The purpose of this Act is to launch a colorectal cancer
11 screening and awareness pilot program to promote and encourage
12 screening through a public awareness campaign to help the State
13 achieve an increase in screening rates in conjunction with the
14 "80% by 2018" initiative. The pilot program will be a systems-
15 approach to increase overall population-based screening to
16 achieve the eighty per cent objective, and to reach and screen
17 populations at high risk for colorectal cancer, especially those
18 who do not have medical insurance.

19 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the colorectal cancer
20 screening and awareness pilot program, to be administered by the
21 department of health. The department of health shall:



- 1 (1) Provide public education to:
- 2 (A) Promote colorectal cancer screening; and
- 3 (B) Provide specific education to populations at high
- 4 risk for colorectal cancer; and
- 5 (2) Collaborate with health care providers to integrate
- 6 colorectal cancer screenings into their standard
- 7 practice according to the guidelines of the United
- 8 States Preventative Services Task Force; and
- 9 (3) Partner with health care providers to screen eligible
- 10 participants according to the guidelines of the United
- 11 States Preventative Services Task Force, as described
- 12 in subsection (b).
- 13 (b) To be an eligible participant to receive screening
- 14 pursuant to subsection (a)(3), a person shall:
- 15 (1) Be at least fifty years of age, or have a high risk
- 16 for colorectal cancer if under the age of fifty;
- 17 (2) Be uninsured, or if underinsured have coverage that
- 18 does not cover the full cost of colorectal cancer
- 19 screenings;
- 20 (3) Not be eligible for medical assistance; and



1 (4) Have a gross family income at or below two hundred
2 fifty per cent of the poverty level.

3 (c) For purposes of this section, an eligible participant
4 is considered "high risk for colorectal cancer" if the person
5 has:

6 (1) A family history of colorectal cancer;

7 (2) A prior occurrence of cancer or precursor neoplastic
8 polyps;

9 (3) A prior occurrence of a chronic digestive disease or
10 condition; or

11 (4) Other predisposing factors, as determined by the
12 department of health.

13 (d) The department of health shall submit to the
14 legislature:

15 (1) A preliminary report no later than twenty days prior
16 to the convening of the regular session of 2018 on the
17 expenditure of funds for the colorectal cancer
18 screening and awareness pilot program as of the date
19 of the preliminary report; and

20 (2) A final report no later than twenty days prior to the
21 convening of the regular session of 2020 on the



1 expenditure of all funds for the colorectal cancer
2 screening and awareness pilot program as of the date
3 of the final report.

4 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and
7 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
8 year 2018-2019 for the colorectal cancer screening and awareness
9 pilot program established pursuant to this Act.

10 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
11 of health for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017, and
13 shall be repealed on June 30, 2020.

14



Report Title:

Colorectal Cancer Screening and Awareness Pilot Program;
Department of Health; Appropriation

Description:

Creates the colorectal cancer screening and awareness pilot program within the department of health and appropriates funds for the program. Repeals on 6/30/2020. (SD1)

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