

# City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia  
Office of the Chief Clerk  
Room 402, City Hall  
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 260278)

## RESOLUTION

Recognizing March as Colon Cancer and Rectal Cancer Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Once considered a danger for those in older age, colon cancer and rectal cancer, collectively known as colorectal cancer, are rising at a shocking rate in younger adults. According to experts, 1 in 5 diagnoses of colorectal cancer occurs in someone under the age of 55, and colorectal cancer has become a leading cause of cancer-related death in young people; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer, with 1 in 25 men and 1 in 26 women developing colorectal cancer, and the second leading cause of cancer-related death in both men and women; and

WHEREAS, Experts estimate that more than half of colorectal cancer cases in the U.S. may be linked to modifiable risk factors, including diet, physical activity, smoking, and alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, Understanding the risks of colorectal cancer and taking proactive steps can make a meaningful difference; and

WHEREAS, Risk factors for colorectal cancer within a person's control include a diet high in processed and red meats and low in fiber, fruits, and vegetables; physical inactivity and obesity; and smoking and alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, Risk factors beyond a person's control include age, genetics, and a family history of colorectal cancer or colorectal polyps, as well as race and ethnicity: American Indian and Alaska Native populations have the highest incidence rates of colorectal cancer in the U.S., followed by African Americans. However, early testing and mindfulness of symptoms can help mitigate these additional risk factors; and

WHEREAS, Early symptoms of colorectal cancer can be subtle such as changes in bowel habits, blood in the stool, abdominal pain or cramping, unexplained weight loss, and fatigue or low iron levels; and

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*RESOLUTION NO. 260278 continued*

WHEREAS, Colorectal cancer is often preventable and highly treatable when detected early. Medical guidelines generally recommend beginning regular screening at age 45 or earlier if there are additional risk factors; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby recognizes March as Colon Cancer and Rectal Cancer Awareness Month.

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*RESOLUTION NO. 260278 continued*

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty-sixth day of March, 2026.

Kenyatta Johnson  
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Elizabeth McCollum  
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Brooks

Sponsored by: Council President Johnson, Councilmembers Brooks, Phillips, Gilmore Richardson, Landau, Lozada, Harrity, Driscoll and Squilla