

The State of Maryland



Proclamation


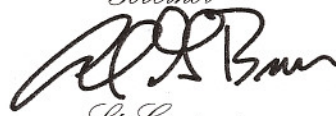
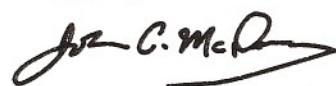
From the Governor of the State of Maryland

COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2009

- WHEREAS,** *Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in Maryland; the American Cancer Society projected approximately 2,920 new cases and 940 deaths in 2008 due to the disease in the state; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Screening of colorectal cancer is recommended for people age 50 years and over and earlier than age 50 for people with personal or family risk factors; that signs or symptoms of colorectal cancer are often absent in early stages but may include bleeding from the rectum, blood in the stool, abdominal mass or pain, and change in bowel movements; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is among the top five states nationally where the proportion of the population age 50 and over has had a recent screening for colorectal cancer; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund Program through state and local public health programs provides colorectal cancer screening for eligible individuals at no cost in order to decrease colorectal cancer mortality and reduce the racial and ethnic disparities in cancer mortality in Maryland; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and its local public health programs urge health care providers to recommend colorectal screening for their eligible clients and urge the public to seek screening.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim **MARCH 2009,** as **COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of March
Two Thousand and nine


Governor

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State

