



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States among men and women combined, but there is currently no cure; and*

*WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is one of the few cancers that can be prevented with timely screening and due to COVID-19, the total number of colonoscopies and biopsies performed declined nearly 90% by mid-April 2020 compared to the same period the previous year; and*

*WHEREAS, individuals born in the 1990s have double the risk of colon cancer and quadruple the risk of rectal cancer as those born in the 1950s; and*

*WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 145,000 people were diagnosed with colorectal cancer and over 53,000 people died of colorectal cancer in 2020; and*

*WHEREAS, colorectal cancer incidence and mortality rates are disproportionately higher among racial and ethnic minorities; and*

*WHEREAS, the national goal established by the National Colorectal Cancer Roundtable is to strive to increase timely colorectal cancer screening rates to 80 percent in every community for all Americans eligible for screening; and*

*WHEREAS, it is critical that all people, of all ages, know the signs and symptoms of the disease; and*

*WHEREAS, observing a Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month during the month of March would provide a special opportunity to offer education on the importance of early detection and screening;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 2021, as*

# *Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month*

*in the state of Alabama.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the  
Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City  
of Montgomery on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February 2021.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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*Kay Ivey, Governor*