



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. Due to covid-19, the total number of colonoscopies and biopsies performed declined nearly 90 percent 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 incidents 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 provides 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 2026 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 2nd day of March 2026.*

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor