

SJR48 ENROLLED



1 SJR48
2 GLV3C26-2
3 By Senator Stutts
4 RFD: RULES
5 First Read: 11-Apr-24



SJR48 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR_____ ENCOURAGING ACCESS TO COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING
5 FOR ALL ALABAMIANS ON MEDICAID.

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7 WHEREAS, colorectal cancer is the second leading
8 cause of cancer death among men and women combined in the
9 United States; however, it is one of the most highly
10 preventable forms of cancer; and

11 WHEREAS, screening tests can detect colorectal cancer
12 early, which is when treatment works best; patients with
13 colorectal cancer diagnosed when it is in the early stages
14 have a five-year survival rate of 91 percent, but patients
15 with colorectal cancer diagnosed when it is already
16 metastatic have a five-year survival rate of 14 percent; and

17 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that
18 2,750 Alabamians will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in
19 2024; the American Cancer Society also estimates 900 deaths
20 due to colorectal cancer in Alabama in 2024; and

21 WHEREAS, roughly one in three Alabamians over 45
22 years of age is currently not getting screened for
23 colorectal cancer; and

24 WHEREAS, deaths from colorectal cancer occur
25 disproportionately among those who are underserved; and

26 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society and the U.S.
27 Preventive Services Task Force's recommendations for
28 colorectal cancer screening include colonoscopy, CT



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29 colonography, flexible sigmoidoscopy, sDNA-FIT, and FIT/FOBT
30 tests; and

31 WHEREAS, patients may be more or less likely to
32 utilize specific screening modalities based on fear,
33 education, medical consultation, geographic location, bias,
34 personal preference, or other reasons; and

35 WHEREAS, prevention, screening, early detection, and
36 improving the health of people with cancer can save lives
37 and reduce total health care costs; and

38 WHEREAS, Alabama law requires all state-regulated
39 health plans to cover colorectal cancer screening tests in
40 accordance with American Cancer Society guidelines; now
41 therefore,

42 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
43 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we recognize the importance
44 of colorectal cancer screening; having access to all
45 modalities of colorectal cancer screenings will encourage
46 patients' compliant participation in the screenings.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we encourage the Alabama
48 Medicaid program to provide equal access to colorectal
49 cancer screening for Alabamians who are 45 years of age and
50 older and to cover all available ACS and USPSTF recommended
51 options for colorectal cancer screening, consistent with
52 other state-regulated plans.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR48

Senate 11-Apr-24

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 18-Apr-24

By: Senator Stutts