

**SJR48 INTRODUCED**



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



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SJR\_\_\_\_\_ ENCOURAGING ACCESS TO COLORECTAL CANCER SCREENING  
FOR ALL ALABAMIANS ON MEDICAID.

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

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society and the U.S.  
Preventive Services Task Force's recommendations for  
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.