

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland  
**COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH**  
**MARCH 2010**

- WHEREAS,** *Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in Maryland; the American Cancer Society projected approximately 2,620 new cases and 940 deaths in 2009 due to the disease in the state; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Colorectal cancer may be present when a person has no symptoms. It also may cause symptoms of bleeding from the rectum, blood in the stool, abdominal lump or pain, and changes in bowel movements; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Testing for colorectal cancer can save lives. Men and women ages 50 years and over, or those who are under 50 years and have personal or family health conditions that increase their chances of getting colorectal cancer, should be tested earlier for colorectal cancer; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Medicare, Medicaid, and private health insurance in Maryland provide coverage for colorectal cancer testing; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Center for Cancer Surveillance and Control and local health department programs provide no-cost colorectal cancer screening for eligible individuals and provide education to the public and health care providers through funding from the Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund, the Maryland Cancer Fund, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; 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 2010, 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 ten



*Martin O'Malley*  
Governor  
*Robert Ehrlich*  
Lt. Governor  
*Joe C. McPherson*  
Secretary of State