

Support H.R. 1330 The Colorectal Cancer Screening and Treatment Act

The Facts

- Colorectal cancer is the third most commonly diagnosed cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death in both men and women in the United States.
- Every three and a half minutes, someone is diagnosed with colorectal cancer.
- Every nine minutes, someone dies from colorectal cancer.

What H.R. 1330 Does

The Colorectal Cancer Screening and Treatment Act will help to increase population-based screening rates for colorectal cancer. Currently less than half of those who should be screened do get screened.

- Requires all health insurance plans, both individual and group, to cover a colonoscopy for anyone age 50 or older.
- Under current law, most private or small business health insurance plans either don't cover screening colonoscopies or have restrictions in place that cause the patient to have to pay for a large portion of the dollar cost associated with a colonoscopy.
- The coverage this important legislation requires is similar to the coverage that almost all states require health plans to provide for breast cancer screening.

Why This Legislation Is Needed

- Most private or small business health insurance plans either:
 - Don't cover a colonoscopy.
 - Have such a high deductible that the dollar amount coverage for the insured is minimal to zero.
 - Have a cap on preventive care, thus making a large portion of the dollar cost associated with the colonoscopy uncovered.
- 30,000 to 44,000 lives a year could be saved if colorectal cancer screening was fully accessible and utilized.
- Screening saves lives in two ways, by preventing cancer when pre-cancerous polyps are removed, and by finding cancer in its earliest, curable stage.
- The most common symptom of colorectal cancer is no symptom, which is why regular screening is critical.

Questions?

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