

will introduce a resolution drawing attention to colorectal cancer and urging the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a national public education and awareness campaign.

Too many Americans are simply unaware of their risk for colorectal cancer and the need for regular screening. Many cases of colorectal cancer can be prevented by eating a healthy, well-balanced diet, exercising regularly, and avoiding the abuse of alcohol and tobacco. Other cases can be prevented by removing precancerous polyps. And when colorectal cancer is detected before it has spread, it is 92 percent curable.

Tragically, too many cases of this cancer are not detected at that early stage. Respected authorities such as the American Cancer Society recommend that people over 50 have annual colorectal cancer screenings. Yet fewer than 20 percent of Americans at risk do so. According to one survey, one-third of men and women over 50 had never even heard of a sigmoidoscopy, one of the main tests to detect this disease.

We need to mount a war against this terrible disease. Education is the first vital step enabling us to reach all Americans with factual, scientific information about reducing their risk for colorectal cancer. We need to talk about this disease, and we need the media to take an active role in writing about it. Ten years ago it was not considered polite to talk about a mammogram in public; I want to bring colorectal cancer screening out of the closet the same way. Yesterday's Washington Post Health section set a shining example by devoting an entire special issue to colorectal cancer. We need more efforts like this to teach everyone about the steps they can take to avoid this disease.

As an activist on women's health issues, I would like to note that this issue is especially important for women. For too long, women have viewed colorectal cancer as a man's disease. This is utterly false. Colorectal cancer is an equal opportunity killer, striking men and women at equal rates. I want to be sure both our brothers and our sisters are all getting regular colorectal cancer screenings and taking measures to reduce their risk.

Education is the first step in the battle we are waging. Today I sent a letter to HHS Secretary Donna Shalala embarking upon the second step of this war as well. This letter requests that the department examine some of the causes underlying the low rates of colorectal cancer screening in our nation, including levels of screening around the nation, the importance of factors such as insurance coverage, and the role physicians play in ensuring that patients are screened regularly. This report will yield some new insights into additional steps we can take in Congress to fight colorectal cancer.

I am pleased to note that several Members of Congress with outstanding records on the issue of colorectal cancer are serving as lead original cosponsors of this resolution: Representatives CHARLIE RANGEL, BILL THOMAS, NORMAN SISISKY, BEN CARDIN, and ALCEE HASTINGS. Fifteen other Members of Congress have signed on as original cosponsors as well. I am also proud to announce that this resolution already has been endorsed by the American Cancer Society and Partnership for Prevention.

I hope all my colleagues will join me in working to defeat colorectal cancer, a disease

that needlessly claims the lives of far too many Americans every year.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP JOHN HURST
ADAMS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today during Black History Month to pay tribute to one of the most effectual persons I have ever known, Bishop John Hurst Adams, the Senior Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church. Bishop Adams was born in Columbia, South Carolina, where he now lives and resides.

Bishop Adams grew up in the Waverly neighborhood of Columbia, which is located in the Sixth Congressional District which I proudly serve. He attended Waverly Elementary School, Booker T. Washington High School, and later Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he lettered in four sports. Bishop Adams continued his education at the Boston University School of Theology, Harvard University School of Divinity, and Union Theological Seminary.

Bishop Adams has spread the gospel across the breadth of our country during his lifetime of service. He began his ministry with a small congregation in Lynn, Massachusetts. He taught at Payne Theological Seminary in Ohio, and later served as President of Paul Quinn College in Texas for six years and as Chairman of the Board for eight. During his years at Paul Quinn College, the school received accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) and saw many new buildings, renovations and improvements.

Bishop Adams next pastored the First AME Church in Seattle. His impact on the community was so great that both daily newspapers published editorials lamenting his departure. From Seattle, Bishop Adams went to Los Angeles where he pastored Grant AME in the Watts section of Los Angeles, known for the Watts riot. It was here that he created a Saturday morning Ethnic School to teach reading, writing and black pride without white hate. That Saturday morning school continues to function today. It was while in Los Angeles that Bishop Adams was elected the 87th Bishop of the African Methodism.

Upon his election, Bishop Adams served the Tenth Episcopal District in Texas and later left his mark on the Second Episcopal District here in the Mid-Atlantic States. Under his leadership, 40 new congregations sprouted throughout the district. From here, he went to serve the Sixth Episcopal District in Georgia, and while there served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Morris Brown College, Turner Theological Seminary, Interdenominational Theological Center and the Atlanta University Center. He also served on the Centennial Olympic Committee.

I am very proud that Bishop Adams' service has now called him to the Seventh Episcopal District in South Carolina to preside over the State's 609 AME churches. Although his work is far from over, he has made numerous improvements in the community in which we live. Under his Chairmanship, Allen University, one

of seven historically Black Colleges and Universities in my district, has received its ten year accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. Enrollment at Allen continues to climb, and the campus is in perpetual renovation as an exciting building program has been launched. And if I might add Mr. Chairman, this body has played a significant role in that renaissance, having recently appropriated funds to begin the restoration of historic buildings on that campus. Under Bishop Adams' leadership, the Reid House of Christian Service in Charleston, has flourished and now includes the Adams Building which houses the only African American Adoption Center in South Carolina.

Bishop Adams is a strong believer that people must join together to do what they cannot do alone. To that end, he has founded the Congress of National Black Churches, the Institute on Church Administration and Management in Atlanta, Georgia; the Richard Allen Service and Development Agency in Washington, D.C.; and the Educational Growth Organization in Los Angeles, California. He continues to serve on many boards and directorates, including the Interdenominational Theological Center, Institute on Church Administration and Management, Joint Center for Political Studies, Children's Defense Fund Black Community Crusade for Children, National Black United Fund, Industrial Area Foundation, National Urban League, and South Carolina's Palmetto Project.

Bishop Adams has received many fitting honors and awards throughout his 25 years as Bishop. In 1996, he was awarded South Carolina's highest citizen honor, the Order of the Palmetto, in recognition of his contributions to the State. And last Saturday I joined with thousands of South Carolinians who met in Charleston to help celebrate his Golden Anniversary in the ministry and Silver Anniversary in the bishopric. That celebration, Mr. Speaker, defied the notion that a prophet is without honor in his own homeland.

Although he has been called one of the "most progressive black church leaders in history," Bishop Adams most important calling is that of his family. Bishop Adams and his wife, Dr. Dolly Desselle Adams, have been partners in the ministry for 41 years. They have three daughters and six grandchildren. Bishop Adams is referred to by many as the 3.5 million member AME denomination's "most influential cleric." I am very proud to call him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me today in honoring Bishop John Hurst Adams whose spirit, belief, and kindness have moved communities to action across the nation. He is an excellent role model, a valued friend, an outstanding leader and a great American.

AARP REFUTES MAILINGS ON
KYL-ARCHER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 1998

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, for offices receiving mail on the Kyl-Archer bill to let any doctor at any time bill any Medicare patients as much as the doctor wants, the following article from the February, 1998 AARP Bulletin will provide a useful insert-answer.