INVEST IN COLORECTAL CANCER RESEARCH

• NIH and NCI need an increased and predictable federal investment to continue to make progress in the development of new treatments and cures for cancer and other diseases.

• Despite colorectal cancer being the second leading cause of death for men and women combined, colorectal cancer research funding at NCI is going down.

• Early-age onset colorectal cancer rates (under 55 years of age) have been rising significantly in the last few decades and we don’t know why.

• In response to this trend, earlier this year the American Cancer Society lowered the age at which it recommends beginning colorectal screening from 50 to 45.

• This report language directs NCI to focus resources on research in this area to expand our knowledge of colorectal cancer and help advance the development of improved screening modalities and treatment.

• The PRCRP funds research for 15 different cancer types, including colorectal cancer and cancer in children, adolescents, and young adults. These grants are focused on militarily-relevant risk factors associated with cancer.

• The PRCRP funds high-risk, high-reward science that is not funded by NIH or NCI.

• From 2009 to 2016, the PRCRP funded over $19 million in colorectal cancer research. However, eligibility of colorectal cancer to receive research funding under the PRCRP is not guaranteed - Congress must continue to include it each year.