

HCR 1065

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, May 4, 2010

**House Concurrent
Resolution No. 1065**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1065 - By: WRIGHT (HAROLD) of the House.

A Concurrent Resolution recognizing May 2010, as National Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month; declaring the second week in May 2010, as Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Week in Oklahoma; urging citizens to utilize certain information; and directing distribution.

1 WHEREAS, one in five Americans will get skin cancer in their lifetime; and

2 WHEREAS, more than one million new cases of skin cancer, a potentially deadly
3 disease and the most common of all types of cancer, will be diagnosed in the United
4 States this year; and

5 WHEREAS, most people do not realize that the skin is the largest and most visible
6 organ of the body and performs many essential tasks; and

7 WHEREAS, melanoma, the most deadly form of skin cancer, is now the fastest
8 growing cancer in the United States, with cases increasing at an epidemic rate; and

9 WHEREAS, one American dies from melanoma every 62 minutes, and 116,500 new
10 cases of melanoma are projected to be diagnosed this year; and

11 WHEREAS, in 2007, 1,123 Oklahomans were diagnosed with melanoma; and

1 WHEREAS, melanoma is the second most common cancer in adolescents and young
2 adults ages 15 to 29, is the leading cause of cancer death in women ages 25 to 30 and is
3 second only to breast cancer as the most common cancer in women ages 30 to 34; and

4 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Health and Human Services has
5 declared ultraviolet radiation from the sun and artificial sources, such as tanning beds
6 and sun lamps, as a known carcinogen; and

7 WHEREAS, evidence from several studies has shown that exposure to ultraviolet
8 radiation from indoor tanning devices is associated with an increased risk of melanoma
9 and nonmelanoma skin cancer such as squamous cell carcinoma and basal cell
10 carcinoma, especially when a person is exposed at an early age; and

11 WHEREAS, more than 2.3 million teenagers use artificial tanning devices each
12 year, and more than 25 percent of American teenagers have used tanning booths three or
13 more times; and

14 WHEREAS, skin damage from ultraviolet radiation is cumulative, and its adverse
15 effects, including skin cancer and premature aging, often take years to become apparent;
16 and

17 WHEREAS, much of this damage occurs during the teenage years as evidenced by
18 the fact that skin cancer is occurring in younger populations; and

19 WHEREAS, if detected and treated early, melanoma is often curable, with monthly
20 self-examination being one of the most effective methods of early detection, as well as
21 periodic checkups by a doctor; and

1 WHEREAS, some simple precautions to take to reduce risk include avoiding the sun
2 in peak hours, wearing protective clothing, using sunscreen and sunglasses, and avoiding
3 tanning beds and sunlamps; and

4 WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Cancer Society and other
5 statewide and local organizations collaborate as members of the Oklahoma Cancer
6 Control Network to bring together and coordinate cancer prevention efforts, early
7 detection, treatment, support and research to improve the quality of life for everyone in
8 Oklahoma.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
10 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA
11 LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

12 THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the month of May 2010 as National
13 Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month and declares the second
14 week of May 2010 as Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Week in the
15 State of Oklahoma.

16 THAT the members of the Oklahoma Legislature recognize melanoma as a serious
17 health issue and urge all Oklahomans to avail themselves of information concerning the
18 prevention, early detection and treatment of melanoma to reduce the occurrence of this
19 deadly form of cancer.

20 THAT copies of this resolution be distributed to the American Cancer Society and
21 the Oklahoma Cancer Control Network.

22 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.