

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1065

By: Wright (Harold)

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Concurrent Resolution recognizing May 2010, as
8 National Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and
9 Prevention Month; declaring the second week in May
10 2010, as Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and
11 Prevention Week in Oklahoma; urging citizens to
12 utilize certain information; and directing
13 distribution.

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

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

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

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

1 WHEREAS, one American dies from melanoma every 62 minutes, and
2 116,500 new cases of melanoma are projected to be diagnosed this
3 year; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

8 WHEREAS, some simple precautions to take to reduce risk include
9 avoiding the sun in peak hours, wearing protective clothing, using
10 sunscreen and sunglasses, and avoiding tanning beds and sunlamps;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Cancer Society and
13 other statewide and local organizations collaborate as members of
14 the Oklahoma Cancer Control Network to bring together and coordinate
15 cancer prevention efforts, early detection, treatment, support and
16 research to improve the quality of life for everyone in Oklahoma.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
18 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
19 CONCURRING THEREIN:

20 THAT the Oklahoma Legislature recognizes the month of May 2010
21 as National Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month
22 and declares the second week of May 2010 as Melanoma and Skin Cancer
23 Detection and Prevention Week in the State of Oklahoma.

24

1 THAT the members of the Oklahoma Legislature recognize melanoma
2 as a serious health issue and urge all Oklahomans to avail
3 themselves of information concerning the prevention, early detection
4 and treatment of melanoma to reduce the occurrence of this deadly
5 form of cancer.

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

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