

# ACS Chapters | Ohio



May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

The Honorable Steve Huffman, MD  
Chair, Health Committee  
Ohio Senate  
Ohio Statehouse  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Ohio Senate Health Committee—

On behalf of the Fellows of the American College of Surgeons, Ohio Chapter, I am writing today to express our support for Senate Bill 59, sponsored by State Senator Terry Johnson, DO. Through the ACS Commission on Cancer, our Fellows are dedicated to improving the survival and quality of life for cancer patients. Passage of SB 59 would aid us in this important effort.

As you know, SB 59 would prohibit the use of tanning beds by an individual under age 18 in Ohio. 22 other states have already enacted similar legislation and this issue continues to enjoy strong bipartisan support across the country. Nearly 1 in 4 teenagers have reported using a tanning bed and 1 in 3 adult tanning bed users starting tanning under age 18. Individuals who begin tanning before age 18 have a significantly higher risk of melanoma or other skin cancers.

Passage of SB 59 will lower the incidence of skin cancer in Ohio, thereby reducing the cost to treat and improving the quality of life for many Ohioans. We urge your favorable support.

Sincerely,

Alisha Reiss, MD, FACS  
President  
Ohio Chapter, American College of Surgeons