



Ohio Hematology Oncology Society
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Senate Bill 25 - Proponent Statement
April 2, 2025

On behalf of the Ohio Hematology Oncology Society (OHOS), I am writing to express our strong support for Senate Bill 25, which seeks to prohibit the provision of sun lamp tanning services to individuals under the age of 16. OHOS represents over 220 hematology and oncology providers across Ohio who are dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer. Our members see firsthand the devastating impact of skin cancer, particularly melanoma, which has been strongly linked to ultraviolet (UV) exposure from tanning beds.

There is substantial scientific evidence demonstrating the dangers of indoor tanning for minors. The World Health Organization (WHO), the American Academy of Dermatology (AAD), and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have all classified UV-emitting tanning devices as carcinogenic. Studies have shown that individuals who use tanning beds before the age of 35 have a 75% increased risk of developing melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer. Given that UV radiation exposure is cumulative, early exposure significantly raises the likelihood of long-term health consequences.

As medical professionals, our priority is to protect public health, particularly the health of young people who may not fully understand the risks associated with tanning bed use. Senate Bill 25 aligns with the mission of OHOS by implementing a commonsense safeguard that will help reduce preventable cases of skin cancer among Ohio's youth.

We commend the leadership of Senator Johnson in introducing this important legislation and urge the Ohio Senate to advance Senate Bill 25 without delay. Preventing minors from accessing indoor tanning facilities is a crucial step in reducing future cancer diagnoses and improving public health outcomes in our state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We appreciate your efforts in promoting policies that protect the well-being of Ohioans. Please feel free to contact me if you require any additional information.

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