



April 2, 2025

Chair Huffman, Vice Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Liston, and members of the Ohio Senate Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony to Senate Bill 25, which would prohibit the provision of sun lamp tanning services to individuals under the age of 16 and modify parental consent requirements.

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer, accounting for nearly half of all cancer cases in the U.S. At UC Health and the University of Cincinnati Cancer Center, we treat a variety of skin cancers including melanoma and nonmelanoma. Melanoma is less common than basal cell and squamous cell skin cancers, but is more likely to spread to other parts of the body and can be deadly. Just this past month alone, I have seen two young Ohioans diagnosed with metastatic melanoma.

Among the most common risk factors for melanoma are excessive amount of time spent in the sun without adequate sunblock protection and the use of tanning booths/beds and sunlamps. Most skin doctors and health organizations including the American Cancer Society recommend not using tanning beds and sun lamps. The modification of parental consent requirements for minors to use sun lamp tanning services in SB 25 will require a parent to be present or sign a consent form with each session for minors who are 16 or 17 years of age. This modification will remove the current 90-day consent validity and will provide more parental control for the use of sun lamp tanning services. Although this bill does not prevent use in private homes nor prevent minors from excessive sun UV light exposure, we support SB 25 which will improve parental consent and decrease rates of youth sun lamp tanning. SB 25 will also bring more awareness to the dangers of excess UV light exposure, reduce the number of devastating skin cancer diagnoses each year in Ohio, and reduce healthcare costs associated with skin cancer.

In closing, we thank Senator Johnson for reintroducing SB 25- legislation that will save countless lives from the devastating effects of skin cancer caused by sun lamp tanning. On behalf of UC Health, we strongly support Senate Bill 25 and request the Ohio Senate Health Committee favorable report this legislation.

Sincerely,

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