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3 By Senator Waggoner
4 RFD:
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8 RECOGNIZING MAY 2019 AS SKIN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

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10 WHEREAS, Skin Cancer Awareness Month, May 2019,
11 provides a special opportunity to offer education on the
12 importance of skin cancer prevention and screening; skin
13 cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the United
14 States, and rates have been rising for the past 30 years; and

15 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that
16 over 104,300 invasive skin cancers will be diagnosed in the
17 U.S. in 2019, and more than 96,400 of these cases will be
18 melanoma, the most serious and deadliest form of skin cancer;
19 in addition, over 95,800 cases of non-invasive melanomas and
20 millions of cases of basal cell and squamous cell skin cancers
21 will also be diagnosed in 2019; more than 11,600 men and women
22 are expected to die of skin cancer this year, and over 7,200
23 of those deaths will be from melanoma; and

24 WHEREAS, the costs associated with skin cancer
25 exceed \$8 billion each year, \$3.3 billion of that total is for
26 melanoma treatment; and

1 WHEREAS, three main types of skin cancer are
2 melanoma which is the deadliest form of skin cancer, squamous
3 cell cancers which typically appear on sun exposed areas, and
4 basal cell cancers which grow slowly and rarely spread to
5 other parts of the body; and

6 WHEREAS, exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation, in
7 any form, can lead to DNA damage to skin, resulting in
8 short-term adverse effects such as sunburn, eye damage,
9 fainting, and suppression of the immune system; the damage of
10 UV radiation is cumulative over an individual's lifetime;
11 repeated exposure can result in long-term effects such as
12 premature aging of the skin, wrinkles, solar keratosis (scaly
13 growth on the skin), permanent eye damage, and skin and ocular
14 cancers;

15 WHEREAS, the two types of UV radiation that cause
16 the most damage to skin are UVA, which is the most common kind
17 of UV light which penetrates below the top layer of skin and
18 UVB, which does not penetrate as deeply as UVA rays, but still
19 damages the skin; and

20 WHEREAS, other risk factors include the use of
21 indoor tanning devices, fair skin, freckling, and light hair,
22 presence of moles, personal or family history of skin cancer,
23 especially melanoma, aging, weakened immune system, smoking,
24 long-term skin conditions, rare inherited conditions, and
25 certain treatments for medical conditions; and

26 WHEREAS, according to the American Cancer Society,
27 avoiding exposure to UV light is the best way to prevent skin

1 cancer; this can be done by avoiding indoor tanning devices,
2 seeking shade when outdoors, especially between 10 a.m. and 4
3 p.m., wearing sun protective clothing, such as long sleeve
4 shirts, long pants, hats, and UV protective sunglasses and
5 applying broad spectrum sunscreen with SPF of 30 or greater to
6 exposed skin; now therefore,

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
8 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we recognize May 2019 as Skin
9 Cancer Awareness Month in Alabama, and we encourage all
10 Alabamians to use the recommended skin cancer prevention
11 methods when exposed to sun.