

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 5, 2013

RE: H.B. No. 611

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 611  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TANNING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to make it unlawful for  
tanning facilities to allow minors to use tanning equipment.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Prohibits a tanning facility or operator from allowing a person under age eighteen from using tanning equipment;
- (2) Authorizes the Department of Health to impose fines on persons who are in violation;
- (3) Provides an exemption for: equipment that emits ultraviolet radiation that is used by a licensed physician in the practice of medicine; or tanning equipment that is owned by a person for noncommercial personal use; and
- (4) Requires tanning facilities to post a notice of the prohibition and the health risks associated with tanning.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American



Osteopathic Association, American Osteopathic College of Dermatology, and Hawaii Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons. The Department of Health supported the intent of the measure. Testimony in opposition to this measure was submitted by one concerned individual. Written comments on this measure were submitted by one concerned individual.

Your Committee finds that suntanning in general increases the risks of sunburn, skin cancer, retinal damage, and other serious health conditions and that tanning with artificial ultraviolet light magnifies these risks even further. Young people are at a heightened risk for developing skin cancer from indoor tanning. Despite the increased risk of skin cancer, including melanoma, increasing numbers of teenagers use tanning facilities. In the several states that have restricted minors' access to tanning equipment, skin cancer rates have decreased or remained stable. Accordingly, your Committee finds that prohibiting the use of commercial tanning equipment by persons under age eighteen will protect the health, safety, and welfare of young people in Hawaii and promote the responsible use of tanning equipment.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 611 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Health,

  
DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



