

HB611

HD1

LATE

TESTIMONY

From: [Katrina Masterson](#)
To: [JDL Testimony](#)
Subject: HB 611, HD1 on 4/1/14
Date: Monday, March 31, 2014 10:11:53 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

March 31, 2014

JDL/WAM

415 South Beretania Street

Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: Support for HB 611, HD1 on 4/1/14

Dear Members,

On behalf of the nearly 3000 U.S. members of the Dermatology Nurses' Association (DNA), I am writing urge your support HB 611, HD1. Which would "promote the public health, safety, and welfare" by prohibiting children under 18 from using indoor tanning devices. As dermatology nurses, we are dedicated to educating our patients on the dangers of indoor tanning and to promote healthy skin, but we need your help.

Tanning Device Use is not safe

There is no such thing as a "safe" tan. UV radiation damages the skin's DNA, which is the beginning stage of skin cancer. Use of indoor tanning beds has been linked to melanoma, basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, molecular damage of the skin, and other acute damage to the eyes and skin, and should be avoided.

Indoor Tanning Significantly Increases one's Risk of Developing Skin Cancer

The deadliest form of skin cancer, melanoma, is the most common form of cancer for young adults 25-29 years old and the second most common form of cancer for adolescents and young adults 15-29 years old. A study published in the International Journal of Cancer found that compared with study participants who had never used a tanning bed, the risk of melanoma was 41% higher for those who had **ever** used a tanning bed, and was approximately doubled for those who reported more than 10 lifetime sessions.¹

Despite Legislative Gains, Increased Regulation Continues to be Necessary

Tanning advocates often argue that additional regulation of their industry is not necessary. Yet, despite some progress, the tanning industry remains highly unregulated and studies have indicated that state laws requiring parental consent are ineffective at curbing this dangerous activity. Furthermore, commercial indoor tanning facilities are prevalent in the US, with an average of 42 tanning salons per major US city. This number exceeded the number of Starbucks and McDonalds in most locations.²

DNA believes protecting the public, especially adolescents, and requiring appropriate oversight of the indoor tanning industry is crucial to promoting public health and reducing overall health care costs. According to the National Cancer Institute, the estimated total direct cost associated with the treatment of melanoma in 2010 was \$2.36 billion.³ Of course; these figures do not begin to account for the tragic loss of life from this menacing disease.

Prohibiting use of indoor tanning for all minors under the age of 18 is critical to preventing future skin cancers.

I urge you to support HB 611, HD1.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments on this important public health issue. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,
Katrina Masterson RN
Health Policy and Advocacy Committee
Dermatology Nurses Association
kmaster@tctc.com

1 Cust AE, Armstrong BK, Goumas C, Jenkins MA, Schmid H, Hopper JL et al. Sunbed use during adolescence and early adulthood is associated with increased risk of early-onset melanoma. *Int J Cancer* Jul 28, 2010.

2 Hoerster KD, Garrow RL, Mayer JA, Clapp EJ, Weeks JR, Woodruff SI, Sallis JF, Slymen DJ, Patel MR, Sybert SA. "Density of indoor tanning facilities in 116 large U.S. cities." *Am J Prev Med* 2009; 36 (3): 243-46.

3 "The Cost of Cancer." National Cancer Institute at the National Institutes of Health. 2011. www.cancer.gov/aboutnci/servingpeople/cancer-statistics/costofcancer (accessed 26 Aug. 2011).

From: [Donna Moncivaiz](#)
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Subject: HB 611, HD1 on 4/1/14
Date: Monday, March 31, 2014 3:26:57 PM

Good Evening,

My name is Donna Moncivaiz, and I am a Stage IV melanoma patient. I testified in support of the City of Chicago teen tan ban as well as the Illinois statewide teen tan ban. The Bill that you're considering is extremely important to the young people of your state. Passing this Bill WILL absolutely save lives. The science is there...tanning beds are known carcinogens. We must protect our young people. We don't let them smoke or drink because it's dangerous to their health. So are tanning beds.

I've been traveling melanoma road for almost 3 years now. I've had 5 surgeries, and endured a solid year of chemotherapy, in addition to having stereotactic radio surgery for a metastatic brain tumor. Melanoma is an awful cancer.

My daughter also had melanoma. Thankfully, we caught her mole early, but she still had to have surgery and has an ugly scar left behind because of it. She is also at higher risk for it to return, so she has to be very vigilant and sees a dermatologist every 3 months.

We both used tanning beds. Me in my 20s and 30s because I didn't have time to lay in the sun.

I let my daughters use tanning beds before prom, before vacations, etc. because I didn't know any better. I had no idea the damage they could...and would do. I have tremendous guilt because something that I gave my daughter permission to do caused her to get melanoma. I'll never forgive myself. That's why this ban is so important. Parents don't want to lose control of what their kids can and can't do, but 99.9% of them are just not educated enough when it comes to melanoma. I am an educated, intelligent woman, and I had no idea what melanoma even was. I sure do know now.

Please, I beg you...pass this Bill and save the young people of your state from this awful cancer.

Thanks for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,
Donna Moncivaiz