



American Cancer Society  
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Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator David Ige, Chair  
Senator Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Decision Making: February 20, 2014; 9:00 a.m.

### **SB 2221 SD1 – RELATING TO TANNING**

Cory Chun, Government Relations Director – Hawaii Pacific  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written comments in support of SB 2221 SD1, which prohibits the use of tanning beds for minors and requires warning notifications to customers.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nation's leading cancer advocacy organization. ACS CAN works with federal, state, and local government bodies to support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem.

Skin cancer is the most prevalent type of cancer in the United States, and melanoma is the third most common form of cancer for individuals aged 25-29 years. Ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure from the sun is a known cause of skin cancer and excessive UV exposure, particularly during childhood and adolescence, is an important predictor of future health consequences.

The link between UV exposure from indoor tanning devices and melanoma is consistent with what we already know about the association between UV exposure from the sun and skin cancer. This is why the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in 2009 elevated tanning devices to its highest cancer risk category – “carcinogenic to humans.”<sup>1</sup>

While sun exposure and tanning beds both produce potentially harmful UV radiation, powerful tanning devices may emit UV radiation 10 to 15 times higher than that of the

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<sup>1</sup> Ghissassi, et al.. “A Review of Human Carcinogens – Part D: Radiation.” The Lancet – Oncology; 2009: 10.

midday sun.<sup>2</sup> It is important to note that tanning beds provide higher levels of UV radiation than daily outdoor exposure.

Compounding this risk is the popularity of indoor tanning among young adults – especially girls. There is a general misconception among teens and adults that a so-called “base tan,” obtained by using indoor tanning devices, will have a protective effect from excessive sun exposure. Also, the tanning bed industry is not regulated as well as it should be in terms of exposure times and frequencies, education of employees, and information given to consumers. The following are some facts about tanning and skin cancer:

- Melanoma is the most deadly of all skin cancers, with more than 9,400 deaths expected to occur each year.
- Melanoma is one of the most common cancers among men and women aged 15-29 years.
- Using a tanning bed increases the risk of two types of skin cancer, squamous and basal cell carcinomas, by 67% and 29% respectively.
- There is a 59% increased risk of melanoma for those who use a tanning bed prior to age 35.<sup>3</sup>
- UV radiation from indoor tanning and other sources is cumulative over time. The earlier a person starts tanning, the greater the risk of getting melanoma and other skin cancers later in life.<sup>4</sup>

To help reduce the incidence of and mortality from skin cancer in the United States, ACS CAN supports state and local initiatives to prohibit the use of indoor tanning devices by those under the age of 18. Laws that prohibit the use of tanning beds for minors have passed in Vermont, Illinois, Nevada, Texas, and California.

The committee may wish to consider including fine amounts into the measure and we would recommend \$250 for the first offense and \$500 for the subsequent offenses, similar to penalties for the sale of tobacco to minors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this important issue.

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<sup>2</sup> International Agency for Research on Cancer Working Group on Exposure to Artificial Ultraviolet (UV) Light and Skin Cancer. The association of use of sunbeds with cutaneous malignant melanoma and other skin cancers: a systematic review. *Int J Cancer*. 2007;120(5):1116–1122.

<sup>3</sup> Boniol B, Autier P, Boyle P, Gandini S. “Cutaneous melanoma attributable to sunbed use: systematic review and meta-analysis”. *British Medical Journal*, 2012; 345:e4757. Correction published December 2012; 345:e8503.

<sup>4</sup> American Cancer Society. “Melanoma of the Skin”. Atlanta: American Cancer Society.



February 5, 2014

Committee on Health and Committee on Ways and Means  
State Capital, 415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Subject: **SB 2221 SD1, Relating To Tanning**

Dear Members of the Senate Committee on Health and Committee on Ways and Means,

The Hawaii Skin Cancer Coalition strongly supports SB 2221 SD1 that makes it unlawful for tanning facilities and operators in the State of Hawaii to allow use of tanning equipment by anyone under the age of eighteen; and requires all tanning facilities and operators in the State of Hawaii to provide written notice, post warning signs, and meet certain requirements relating to the safe operation of tanning equipment.

Skin cancers are the most preventable type of cancer with over 2 million cases diagnosed in the U.S. each year according to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the American Cancer Society (ACS) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC). These cancers result in nearly 2.6 billion dollars in annual treatment costs. A primary cause of skin cancer is exposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun, however a current and disturbing trend in the use of indoor tanning booths have contributed to rising skin cancer rates. Young adults under the age of 18 are particularly vulnerable to skin cancers caused by tanning facilities. According to the National Health Interview Survey, nearly 5% of all U. S. teens ages 14-18, including 2,000 in Hawaii have used indoor tanning facilities in the past year. Unfortunately, experts estimate that this tanning bed use by our youth can increase by 300% their risk for developing melanoma, a life threatening form of skin cancer.

It is our duty to protect the most vulnerable of our population, and to also educate everyone about the known health risks associated with the use of indoor tanning facilities. We the members of the Hawaii Skin Cancer Coalition believe SB 2221 SD1 is a positive step in this direction and we urgently support the passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kevin Cassel".

Kevin Cassel, Dr. PH, MPH  
Chair, Hawaii Skin Cancer Coalition

**The Hawaii Skin Cancer Coalition:** For over nineteen years the Hawaii Skin Cancer Coalition has worked to provide clear, concise messages on skin cancer prevention, early detection, and effective treatment for both the public and health professionals based upon current and accurate information. The Coalition is a collaborative effort between concerned local organizations and businesses including the Hawaii Dermatological Society, the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, American Cancer Society, Planet Sun, Hawaii Pathologists' Laboratory, the Friends of the University of Hawaii Cancer Center, Hawaii Department of Health, University of Hawaii John A. Burns School of Medicine's - Dermatology Interest Group (DIG), and Umbrellas Hawaii, Kaiser Permanente, Kuakini Health System, the Hawaii Lifeguard Association, Spotlight Hawaii Publishing, Queen's Healthcare Plan, Dermatology Nurses Association-Hawaii Chapter, Canopy Valley, Henry Hats, and the Hawaii Ophthalmological Society. These member organizations share a common goal to help prevent skin cancer in Hawaii.



February 18, 2014

Senate Ways and Means Committee  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

**Re: Support for SB 2221**

Dear Committee Members:

AIM at Melanoma is the largest international non-profit organization focused on melanoma research, education, awareness, and legislation. We support SB 2221, which would prohibit minors under 18 from using indoor tanning devices.

The World Health Organization labeled UV radiation from tanning devices as “carcinogenic to humans.” They are in the same risk category as cigarettes and Hawaii does not allow anyone under the age of 18 to purchase tobacco products.

In the last thirty years, the incidence of melanoma among young women has increased as much as 50 percent. Melanoma is now the second most common cancer in women aged 15-29. It is the leading cause of cancer death in women ages 25-30 and is second only to breast cancer in women aged 30-34. The rising rate of melanoma is, in part, due to the popularity of tanning salons among young women. Those who begin tanning before the age of 35 increase their melanoma risk by 59 percent.

Despite the risks associated with these devices, use of these machines is on the rise among high school aged girls. The rate of indoor tanning device use increases drastically as high school girls grow older, from nearly 12 percent among freshman girls to nearly 32 percent among seniors. SB 2221 would protect these teens in Hawaii.

In the interest of protecting teens from the early onset of serious medical conditions, AIM strongly urges you to support SB 2221.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Samantha Guild*

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**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
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**Cc:** [mendezj@hawaii.edu](mailto:mendezj@hawaii.edu)  
**Subject:** \*Submitted testimony for SB2221 on Feb 20, 2014 09:00AM\*  
**Date:** Tuesday, February 18, 2014 10:53:21 AM

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**SB2221**

Submitted on: 2/18/2014

Testimony for WAM on Feb 20, 2014 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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