

RESOLUTION 49-07A

Title: Sun Safety Education for School-Aged Children
Introduced by: Kara M. Jacobs, for the Medical Student Section
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Referred to: Reference Committee D
House Action: Adopted as Amended

Whereas, skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States, according to the National Cancer Institute, and

Whereas, greater than one million new cases of skin cancer will be diagnosed this year, according to American Cancer Society's 2006 Facts & Figures, and

Whereas, individuals receive a substantial proportion of lifetime exposure to ultraviolet radiation during childhood, and severe sunburns before the age of 20 may increase lifetime risk of developing skin cancer, and

Whereas, children spend many weekday hours at school and outdoors, and

Whereas, schools are in a position to teach health behavior education, and

Whereas, preventative behaviors can bring about the most positive effects if they are introduced early and maintained as healthy and consistent patterns, according to the Guidelines for School Programs to Prevent Skin Cancer, and

Whereas, physicians have a responsibility to support health behavior education; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS encourage sun safety education and support the distribution of education material to primary and secondary school-aged children and their parents.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE:

With more than 500,000 students in K-12 in Michigan, and with consulting, design, and printing and postage, the cost of this educational program, depending on dissemination vehicles, is estimated anywhere from \$5,000 to \$100,000.