

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 28—Senators Copenig; Amodei, Breeden, Care, Carlton, Cegavske, Coffin, Hardy, Horsford, Lee, Mathews, McGinness, Nolan, Parks, Raggio, Rhoads, Schneider, Townsend, Washington, Wiener and Woodhouse

Joint Sponsors: Assemblymen Mastroluca; Aizley, Anderson, Arberry, Atkinson, Bobzien, Buckley, Carpenter, Christensen, Claborn, Cobb, Conklin, Denis, Dondero Loop, Gansert, Goedhart, Goicoechea, Grady, Gustavson, Hambrick, Hardy, Hogan, Horne, Kihuen, Kirkpatrick, Koivisto, Leslie, Manendo, McArthur, McClain, Mortenson, Munford, Ocegüera, Ohrenschall, Parnell, Pierce, Segerblom, Settelmeyer, Smith, Spiegel, Stewart and Woodbury

FILE NUMBER.....

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Recognizing the second week in May as Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Week in Nevada and encouraging the public to take measures to decrease incidents of skin cancer.

WHEREAS, One in five Americans will get skin cancer in his lifetime; and

WHEREAS, More than one million new cases of skin cancer, a potentially deadly disease and the most common of all types of cancer, will be diagnosed in the United States this year; and

WHEREAS, Most people do not realize that the skin is the largest and most visible organ of the body and performs many essential tasks; and

WHEREAS, Melanoma, the most deadly form of skin cancer, is now the fastest growing cancer in the United States, with cases increasing at an epidemic rate; and

WHEREAS, One American dies from melanoma every 62 minutes, and 116,500 new cases of melanoma are projected to be diagnosed this year; and

WHEREAS, In 2008, 480 Nevadans were diagnosed with melanoma; and

WHEREAS, Melanoma is the second most common cancer in adolescents and young adults ages 15 to 29 and is the leading cause of cancer death in women ages 25 to 30 and the second only to breast cancer in women ages 30 to 34; and



WHEREAS, The United States Department of Health and Human Services has declared ultraviolet radiation from the sun and artificial sources, such as tanning beds and sun lamps, as a known carcinogen; and

WHEREAS, Evidence from several studies has shown that exposure to ultraviolet radiation from indoor tanning devices is associated with an increased risk of melanoma and nonmelanoma skin cancer such as squamous cell carcinoma and basal cell carcinoma, especially when a person is exposed at an early age; and

WHEREAS, More than 2.3 million teenagers use artificial tanning devices each year, and more than 25 percent of American teenagers have used tanning booths three or more times; and

WHEREAS, Skin damage from ultraviolet radiation is cumulative, and its adverse effects, including skin cancer and premature aging, often take years to become apparent; and

WHEREAS, Much of this damage occurs during the teenage years as evidenced by the fact that skin cancer is occurring in younger populations; and

WHEREAS, If detected and treated early, melanoma is often curable, with monthly self-examination being one of the most effective methods of early detection, as well as periodic checkups by a doctor; and

WHEREAS, Some simple precautions to take include avoiding the sun in peak hours, wearing protective clothing, using sunscreen and sunglasses, and avoiding tanning beds and sunlamps; and

WHEREAS, The Nevada Cancer Institute, the official cancer institute of the State of Nevada, combats melanoma by conducting inventive immunotherapy research, providing melanoma patients with cutting-edge treatments and clinical trials, and educating Nevadans on sun-safety behaviors; and

WHEREAS, Organizations such as the American Cancer Society and other statewide and local organizations collaborate as members of the Nevada Cancer Council to bring together and coordinate cancer prevention efforts, early detection, treatment, support and research to improve the quality of life for everyone in Nevada; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY CONCURRING, That the members of the 75th Session of the Nevada Legislature recognize melanoma as a serious health issue and urge all Nevadans to avail themselves of information concerning the prevention, early detection and treatment of melanoma to reduce the occurrence of this deadly form of cancer; and be it further



RESOLVED, That the Nevada Legislature formally recognizes May as National Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Month and declares the second week of May as Melanoma and Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention Week in Nevada.



