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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2025

HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING MAY OF 2025, AS "NATIONAL SKIN CANCER AWARENESS  
MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Representatives Speakman, Shekarchi, Blazejewski, Chippendale,  
Boylan, Ajello, Shallcross Smith, Fogarty, Fellela, and Tanzi  
Date Introduced: May 15, 2025

Referred To: House read and passed

1 WHEREAS, Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States and worldwide,  
2 with an estimated 3.3 million people and 5.4 million cases being diagnosed in the United States  
3 annually, which represents nearly 9,500 every day, and sadly, more than two people die of the  
4 disease every hour; and

5 WHEREAS, More people are diagnosed with skin cancer each year in the United States  
6 than all other cancers combined. At least one in five Americans will develop skin cancer in their  
7 lifetime. Actinic Keratosis is the most common type of skin pre-cancer, affecting more than 58  
8 million Americans. The annual cost of treating skin cancers in the United States is estimated at  
9 more than eight billion dollars; and

10 WHEREAS, Skin cancer is one of the most preventable forms of cancer. Approximately  
11 90 percent of non-melanoma skin cancers and 86 percent of melanoma cases are associated with  
12 exposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun; and

13 WHEREAS, When detected early, the five-year survival rate for melanoma is 99 percent.  
14 Advocacy, increased awareness, promoting ultraviolet light protection, and skin cancer screening  
15 will result in a meaningful reduction in the burden of skin cancer; and

16 WHEREAS, Members of the Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode Island, physicians  
17 at Brown Dermatology, the Rhode Island Department of Health’s Comprehensive Cancer Control  
18 Program, and Brown University Health are diligently working cooperatively to accomplish  
19 statewide Skin Cancer Prevention; now, therefore be it

1           RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island hereby  
2 commemorates May of 2025, as "National Skin Cancer Awareness Month" in the State of Rhode  
3 Island; and be it further

4           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to  
5 transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to the Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode  
6 Island, Brown Dermatology, the Rhode Island Department of Health's Comprehensive Cancer  
7 Control Program, and the Brown University Health.

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