WHEREAS, Skin cancer is a serious problem for people who spend significant time in
the sun outdoors and for those who are exposed to ultraviolet light from indoor tanning beds; and
WHEREAS, Melanoma is the most deadly common form of skin cancer; and
WHEREAS, Melanoma is the second most common form of cancer for young adults aged 15 through 29; and
WHEREAS, Melanoma accounts for a large majority of all skin cancer deaths; and
WHEREAS, Melanoma treatment costs approximately $3.3 billion annually in the United States; and
WHEREAS, Advocacy, increased awareness, and skin cancer screening will result in a meaningful reduction in the burden of melanoma; and
WHEREAS, Melanoma rates have more than doubled in Rhode Island since 1991; and
WHEREAS, Professionals at Brown Dermatology, Lifespan Community Health Institute, The American Cancer Society, The Partnership to Reduce Cancer in Rhode Island and the Rhode Island Department of Health are working diligently together to raise awareness about the dangers of sun exposure and indoor tanning, to promote safe ultraviolet exposure behaviors, to recognize and treat melanoma as early as possible, when it is still curable, and to accomplish the objectives within the 2013-2018 Rhode Island Cancer Prevention and Control Plan; and
WHEREAS, Across the nation, the month of May is designated as National Melanoma Awareness Month; now, therefore be it

...
RESOLVED, That this House of Representatives of the State of Rhode Island and
Providence Plantations hereby proclaims May, 2018, to be "National Melanoma Awareness
Month" in the State of Rhode Island and furthermore, encourages all residents to learn more
about the prevention of melanoma and other skin cancers; and be it further
RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State be and hereby is authorized and directed to
transmit duly certified copies of this resolution to Joy Hamer, RN, OCN, President of the Board
of the American Melanoma Foundation, Ms. Melissa Campbell, Chair, Partnership to Reduce
Cancer in Rhode Island, Department of Health, and Dr. John Kawaoka, Brown Dermatology.

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