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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

COMMEMORATING MAY OF 2023, AS "NATIONAL SKIN CANCER AWARENESS
MONTH" IN THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

Introduced By: Senator Joshua Miller

Date Introduced: April 27, 2023

Referred To: Placed on the Senate Consent Calendar

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

4 WHEREAS, More people are diagnosed with skin cancer each year in the United States
5 than all other cancers combined. At least one in five Americans will develop skin cancer by the
6 age of 70. Actinic Keratosis is the most common pre-cancer, affecting more than 58 million
7 Americans. The annual cost of treating skin cancers in the United States is estimated at eight
8 billion dollars; and

9 WHEREAS, Skin cancer is one of the most preventable forms of cancer. Approximately
10 90 percent of non-melanoma skin cancers and 86 percent of melanoma cases are associated with
11 exposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun. Having five or more sunburns doubles your risk for
12 melanoma; 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 Lifespan Community Health Institute are diligently working cooperatively to
19 accomplish statewide Skin Cancer Prevention; now, therefore be it

1 RESOLVED, That this Senate of the State of Rhode Island hereby commemorates May
2 of 2023, as "National Skin Cancer Awareness Month" in the State of Rhode Island; and be it
3 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 Lifespan Community Health Institute.

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