

**American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Society of Dermatologic Surgery Association
Illinois Dermatologic Society
Illinois State Medical Society**

**Support House Bill 3113
Important Effort to Reduce Skin Cancer**

On behalf of the physician members of the associations noted above, we respectfully urge you to **VOTE YES on HB 3113, as amended** (Rep. Cassidy/Sen. Fine), a bill to require health plans to cover one annual medically necessary screening for skin cancer that is not otherwise provided as part of a routine dermatology examination. Further, such policies would not impose a deductible, coinsurance, copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement on the coverage provided. Because early detection is vital in the fight against skin cancer, our organizations urge members of the Illinois Senate to support HB 3113.

Skin cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the United States, and most cases are preventable. Unfortunately, the incidences of skin cancer continue to rise. In 2019, it is estimated that there will be 3,750 new cases of melanoma in Illinois. There are 5.4 million cases of nonmelanoma skin cancer diagnosed each year in the United States. Nonmelanoma skin cancer and melanoma accounted for 60% of skin disease–related deaths in the United States.

Skin cancer greatly affects quality of life, and it can be disfiguring or even deadly. Medical treatment for skin cancer creates substantial health care costs for individuals, families, and the nation. The number of Americans who have had skin cancer at some point in the last three decades is estimated to be higher than the number for all other cancers combined and skin cancer incidence rates have continued to increase in recent years.

The annual cost of treating skin cancers in the US is estimated at \$8.1 billion: about \$4.8 billion for nonmelanoma skin cancers and \$3.3 billion for melanoma. The skin cancer examinations set forth in HB 3113 will greatly benefit the public, and it will serve as a significant step to reduce these alarming statistics

Last year, legislation was signed into law that authorizes children to have access to sunscreen in school and camps without a physician’s note, and several years prior, legislation was enacted prohibiting minors from using indoor tanning beds. **We urge members of the Illinois Senate to continue its leadership role in skin cancer prevention by supporting HB 3113, as amended.** We appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments on this important public health issue.