

GLEND A SEBASTIAN
45 SHAWNEE DRIVE
HAMILTON, OHIO 45013

October 2, 2007

Representative Tom Brinkman, Chairman
Commerce and Labor Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
3215 Hardisty Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45208

Dear Chairman Brinkman and Members of the Commerce and Labor Committee:

I write to you asking for your support in the passage of House Bill 230 which would prohibit minors, anyone under the age of 18, from using tanning parlors unless they have a written prescription from their physician.

As a mother of 5 adults and grandmother to 9 minors, I know all too well the peer pressure our children face daily. We as adults need to stop some of the pressures that they face when it comes to getting a "great tan" for that special date, dance, or a base tan for that trip to Florida. Children don't worry about their future, a future that can bring consequences of skin cancers, eye damage, premature aging, etc.

My father had a melanoma and I know that there are genetic factors in skin cancers that are influenced by damage from ultraviolet radiation. Passage of House Bill 230 will protect my grandchildren and other kids from the peer pressure of tanning and radiation damage.

Through research it is stated that 20 minutes of tanning parlor radiation exposure does the same damage as 5 hours in the natural sun light. Not only will you get a dangerous dose of tanning radiation you can also get other diseases such as lupus erythematosus, herpes infections, scabies, burns, and even death. It has been said that lying in a tanning bed is like putting on someone else's underwear.

Our children need to be protected from the dangers that they come up against in their impressionable years. We have a good hold on keeping them out of the dangers of cigarettes and alcohol. By passing House Bill 230 we can keep our children from the dangers of tanning parlor radiation.

I urge you to study all the information and facts and recognize that no one has a right to endanger and abuse a child's health. Please promote the health and safety of children and reduce their future cost of health care by supporting House Bill 230.

Thank you

Sincerely,



Glenda Sebastian