

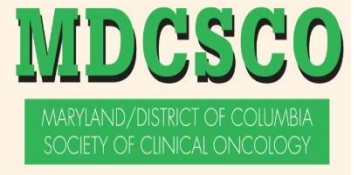


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American Academy of Pediatrics

DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™  
Maryland Chapter



TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Karen Lewis Young

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
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DATE: February 27, 2019

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 124 – *Tanning Devices – Use by Minors*

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The Maryland State Medical Society, the Maryland Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and the Maryland/District of Columbia Society of Clinical Oncology strongly **support** House Bill 124.

House Bill 124 will preclude minors from using tanning beds which – as all available medical evidence establishes – materially increases the prospect of skin cancer and particularly melanoma which is the deadliest form of skin cancer. Indoor tanning beds should be “off limits” to minors in the same way that we place cigarettes and alcohol “off limits” to them. The passage of House Bill 124 will extend the present law in Howard County, Maryland to the rest of the State. The Howard County prohibition, which has been in effect since 2009, has been accepted and enforced by the tanning industry. In addition, in passing House Bill 124, Maryland would join the ranks of 17 states and the District of Columbia in banning the use of tanning beds for all minors under 18 years old.

In 2014, recognizing the dangers of indoor tanning, the Food and Drug (FDA) Administration issued a final decision to reclassify sunlamp products and ultraviolet or UV lamps used in indoor tanning salons. The federal agency changed the labeling requirements from low-risk to moderate-risk devices and required the products carry a black box stating that the products should not be used on people under age 18. Unfortunately, although a black box is the FDA's strongest warning, this does not outlaw or restrict these devices for minors. Read more on the FDA's warning and position on indoor tanning. Therefore, it is imperative that Maryland take the next step and prohibit minors from using indoor tanning devices.

<https://www.fda.gov/Radiation-EmittingProducts/RadiationEmittingProductsandProcedures/Tanning/ucm116434.htm>

For these reasons, we strongly urge a favorable vote on House Bill 124.