
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 282 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY KULIK, KINSEY, FRANKEL, YOUNGBLOOD, MILLARD,
DONATUCCI, HILL-EVANS, CALTAGIRONE, GAYDOS, BROWN, DeLUCA,
LONGIETTI, READSHAW, FREEMAN, NEILSON AND WARREN,
APRIL 30, 2019

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
APRIL 30, 2019

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of July 2019 as "Ultraviolet Safety Month"
2 in Pennsylvania to raise awareness of the dangers of UV rays
3 and point out the most effective ways to avoid these harmful
4 rays.

5 WHEREAS, The skin is the body's largest organ and it helps
6 control body temperature and protect internal organs against
7 sunlight, injury and infection; and

8 WHEREAS, Many people do not adequately protect their skin
9 from dangerous environmental hazards and do not consider the
10 necessity of protecting their skin; and

11 WHEREAS, Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United
12 States; and

13 WHEREAS, The number of skin cancer cases has been increasing
14 over the past few decades, mostly from too much exposure to
15 ultraviolet (UV) rays, a form of electromagnetic radiation; and

16 WHEREAS, Sunlight is the main source of UV rays, although UV
17 rays can also come from man-made sources, including tanning

1 beds, sun lamps and welding torches; and

2 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, there are
3 three main types of UV rays:

4 (1) UVA rays that age skin cells, damage the DNA of skin
5 cells, are linked to long-term skin damage and may play a
6 role in some skin cancers.

7 (2) UVB rays that have slightly more energy than UVA
8 rays, can damage skin cell DNA directly, cause sunburns and
9 are also thought to cause most skin cancers.

10 (3) UVC rays that have more energy than other types of
11 UV rays but are absorbed in the ozone layer of the atmosphere
12 before reaching the earth and are not normally a cause of
13 skin cancer;

14 and

15 WHEREAS, Avoiding sunlight completely is not possible or
16 healthy; and

17 WHEREAS, There are several ways to protect the skin from
18 harmful exposure to UV radiation; and

19 WHEREAS, The United States Centers for Disease Control and
20 Prevention offers the following everyday steps to safeguard skin
21 from the harmful effects of UV radiation from the sun:

22 (1) Wear protective clothing, including a hat and
23 sunglasses.

24 (2) Avoid sunburns.

25 (3) Stay in the shade and out of the sun, if possible,
26 between the peak burning hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. when UV
27 light is the strongest.

28 (4) Use extra caution near reflective surfaces,
29 including water, snow and sand.

30 (5) Use extra caution when at higher altitudes.

1 (6) Apply broad-spectrum sunscreen and reapply
2 throughout the day;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, Most skin cancers can be detected early through skin
5 self-exams and regular skin exams by a health care professional;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, Regular skin exams are important to finding new,
8 evolving or unusual growths on the skin or changes to the
9 symmetry, border, color or diameter of moles; therefore be it

10 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives designate the
11 month of July 2019 as "Ultraviolet Safety Month" in Pennsylvania
12 to raise awareness of the dangers of UV rays and point out the
13 most effective ways to avoid these harmful rays.