

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6065

As of January 21, 2014

Title: An act relating to protecting children under the age of eighteen from the harmful effects of exposure to ultraviolet radiation associated with tanning devices.

Brief Description: Protecting children under the age of eighteen from the harmful effects of exposure to ultraviolet radiation associated with tanning devices.

Sponsors: Senators King, Darneille, Kohl-Welles, Hewitt, Conway and Frockt.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Commerce & Labor: 1/20/14.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & LABOR

Staff: Edith Rice (786-7444)

Background: Tanning of the skin is caused by exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun or artificial UV radiation. Tanning beds or booths are equipment that utilize tanning lamps to expose the skin to UV radiation, which induces tanning.

Tanning facilities are regulated in at least 33 other states. These regulations include minimum standards for tanning facilities, restrictions on access for minors, and the licensing, permitting, or registration of tanning facilities. Because sun and UV exposure in childhood and the teenage years can be highly damaging, policymakers in some states are regulating minors' use of tanning devices such as tanning beds. California, Illinois, Nevada, Texas, Vermont, and most recently Oregon, currently ban use of tanning beds for minors under the age of 18. Tanning facilities are currently not licensed or regulated in Washington.

Summary of Bill: Persons under age 18 are prohibited from using a UV tanning device. Users of UV tanning equipment must present proof of age by presenting a driver's license or other government-issued identification with a date of birth and photograph. Tanning facilities that allow individuals under age 18 to use a tanning device are liable for a civil penalty of no more than \$250 per violation.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: It is difficult to hear about people dealing with cancer that is the result of something they did in their teens. We need to use common sense about sunburn prevention. Less than 3 percent of indoor tanning customers are under 18 years of age. This bill will protect children from an increased risk of melanoma. This bill is a viable compromise.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Joe Levy, American Suntanning Assn., International Smart Tan Assn.; Daniel Mann, Tropical Tan Tanning Salons; Marc Antezana, WA State Dermatology Assn.; Mary McHale, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network; David Jansen, WA State Dept. of Health; Michelle Davis, WA State Board of Health, Executive Director; Michelle Neary, citizen.