

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 18, 2016

Robert Califf
Commissioner
Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20993

Dear Commissioner Califf,

We commend your agency for its proposal to restrict the use of dangerous indoor tanning devices to only adults age 18 and older. We strongly supported the 2013 rule to ensure that consumers know about the harmful effects of these devices, and believe this new rule is a tremendous step to protect young Americans from harmful ultraviolet radiation and curb the spread of skin cancer.

As you are well aware, skin cancer is the most common form of cancer in the United States. Across the world, more cases of skin cancer are caused by indoor tanning each year than there are lung cancer cases due to smoking. At the same time as incidence rates for other cancers are decreasing, melanoma and skin cancer are among the fastest-growing cancers in America, and treatment costs have grown to over \$8 billion each year.

Skin cancers are now the second most-common form of cancer for young women age 15 to 29. According to a report published in January 2014 by *JAMA Dermatology*, over 419,000 cases of skin cancer and about 11,000 cases of melanoma can be attributed to indoor tanning--an activity that increases risk by 59 percent.

Each year, two to three million teens under 18 use tanning beds, and according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 23.4 percent of female high school students use tanning beds each year. We applaud the FDA's bold proposal to decrease the prevalence of tanning among adolescents, and urge the agency to finalize the rule as soon as possible.

Sincerely,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

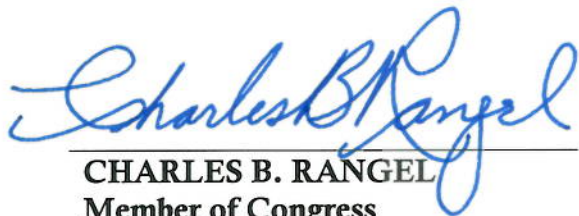

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ROSA DELAURO
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CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress



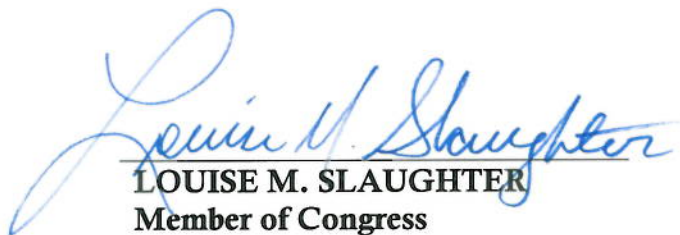
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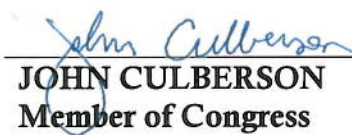
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Member of Congress



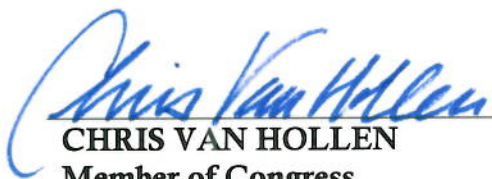
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