

SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 24-030

RAISING AWARENESS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SUN SAFETY AND RECOGNIZING MAY 24, 2024, AS "DON'T FRY DAY" IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

WHEREAS, more than 5 million Americans are diagnosed with skin cancer annually, making it the most common type of cancer in the United States; and

WHEREAS, at least 2 people die of skin cancer in the U.S. every hour; and

WHEREAS, the most common types of skin cancer are strongly associated with exposure to UV radiation (sunlight, tanning devices, and indoor sources); and

WHEREAS, on average, having more than five sunburns doubles your risk for melanoma; and

WHEREAS, the CDC reports that Washington has a higher rate of melanoma compared to California, Florida, and Texas; and

WHEREAS, Snohomish County is a known hot spot for melanoma, according to the Washington Department of Health. Skin cancer rates in our county exceed state levels. There are nearly 62 skin cancer cases per 100,000 compared with the statewide rate of 50.6; and

WHEREAS, the state's cancer registry documented about 1,700 new melanoma cases and 66 deaths in the county from 2016 to 2018; and

WHEREAS, the National Council on Skin Cancer Prevention has designated the Friday before Memorial Day as "Don't Fry Day" to promote sun safety awareness and to remind everyone to protect their skin while enjoying the outdoors; and

WHEREAS, individuals can take precautions to reduce their risk of developing skin cancer. Sun protection helps prevent the harmful effects of UV exposure, including sunburns, skin cancer, premature skin aging, and eye damage; and

WHEREAS, when detected early, the 5-year survival rate for melanoma is 99 percent;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize May 24, 2024, as "Don't Fry Day" and encourages residents to learn more about sun safety. The County Council also urges residents to take measures to decrease the harmful effects of ultraviolet light exposure, such as using sunscreen with an SPF 30 or higher, to block harmful sun rays.

APPROVED this 22nd day of May, 2024.

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Jared Mead Council Chair

Councilmember

Strom Peterson

Councilmember

Nate Nehring Council Vice-Chair

Megan Dunn Councilmember

ATTEST:

Elena Lao, CMC Deputy Clerk of the Council