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Elizabeth K. Usher, MBA, Executive Director & CEO

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC, 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2267 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Jeffries, and Minority Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the leading society in dermatological care representing more than 17,500 dermatologists nationwide, I write to you to express our strong support for H.R. 3686, the SAFE Sunscreen Standards Act.

The American Academy of Dermatology Association (AADA) is committed to excellence in the medical and surgical treatment of skin disease, advocating for high standards in clinical practice, education, and research in dermatology, and supporting and enhancing patient care to reduce the burden of disease. As the leading voice in dermatology, the AADA is uniquely positioned to offer insight and expertise on key challenges and is committed to advancing policies that promote innovation, remove barriers to care, and ensure patients have continued access to safe and effective therapies. Dermatologists diagnose and treat more than 3,000 different skin diseases, including skin cancer, and together we have made it a priority to advance public policies that promote prevention and education.

Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the United States, and current estimates are that one in five Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime. Excess exposure to UV radiation from sunlight or use of indoor tanning increases risk for all skin cancer types, as does a personal history of the disease, and most melanoma cases are attributable to UV exposure. Regular

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sunscreen use reduces risk of melanoma. Approving new sunscreens that can better help prevent skin cancer could also have a budgetary impact as previous estimates have indicated more than \$8 billion is spent annually on melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer treatment.

Although Congress passed the Sunscreen Innovation Act in 2014 to establish a framework for evaluating and approving active sunscreen ingredients, no new ingredients have been approved by the FDA in over two decades. H.R. 3686 aims to correct this problem by streamlining the FDA's review process for assessing the safety and effectiveness of new ingredients used in over-the-counter sunscreens. The provisions of this bipartisan bill are closely aligned with longstanding Academy priorities: supporting expedited FDA-approval of new sunscreen ingredients, reduced reliance on animal testing, and the establishment of more flexible evaluation standards. The AADA believes that ensuring timely access to innovative and effective sunscreen products is essential to proactively reduce skin cancer risk and protect public health.

As Congress seeks to reauthorize the Over-the-Counter Monograph Drug User Fee Program, which expires on September 30, 2025, it is vital that Congress includes the provisions of H.R. 3686, the SAFE Sunscreen Standards Act, in any legislation to better protect Americans and reduce skin cancer rates. The United States is falling behind in sunscreen innovation and patient safety – this legislation will help us catch up to other countries and protect public health. Together, we can make a positive difference for patients across the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan C. Taylor MD, FAAD". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Susan C. Taylor, MD, FAAD
President, American Academy of Dermatology Association