

**SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATOR VIVIAN VILORIA-FISHER**

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**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**SUFFOLK FINALLY APPROVES VILORIA-FISHER'S  
BILL TO REGULATE TANNING SALONS**

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2005, RIVERHEAD, NY** -- The Suffolk County Legislature yesterday passed a bill (IR 1789, the Colette Coyne Melanoma Awareness Act) filed by Legislator Vivian Viloria-Fisher (D-Setauket) increasing the regulation of tanning establishments in Suffolk County.

"I am very pleased that this finally passed!" said Viloria-Fisher who has worked on the issue since February. "Our Melanoma Awareness campaign, which was a collaboration between my office, the American Cancer Society, the Colette Coyne Melanoma Awareness Campaign and several County Departments has been successful in raising the public's awareness of Melanoma and other skin cancers. The Colette Coyne Melanoma Awareness Act will continue the education but will take additional concrete steps to prevent this growing deadly cancer. "

"It has been a long road since February to get this regulation passed," said Colette Coyne of the Melanoma Awareness Campaign and member of American Academy of Dermatology National Coalition for Sun Safety. "There is no such thing as a "safe tan" - tan skin is damaged skin. If we can continue to get that message out - this bill will save future lives!! There is more to do, melanoma is one of the few preventable cancers. Yesterday's success is one step - a beginning."

The Colette Coyne Melanoma Awareness Act prohibits children under the age of 14 from using a tanning device in a tanning facility in the County of Suffolk "unless he or she is accompanied

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by a parent or legal guardian who remains physically present at all times in the tanning facility.” Use by persons between 14 and 18 years of age is also prohibited unless a parent or guardian is present or has executed an in person, written consent, stating the period of time for which the child is permitted to use the tanning facility. The tanning facility is required to keep the consent on file for up to six months, along with a copy of the parent’s driver’s license. Violators will be fined up to \$1,500.

The bill, IR-1789, the Colette Coyne Melanoma Awareness Act, passed the legislature with a vote of 17 in favor and one not present. County Executive Levy is expected to sign the bill within the coming days.

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