

**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

NOTICE OF MOTION

Dr Marisa Paterson MLA: I give notice that I shall move - That this Assembly:

(1) Notes that:

- a. Australia has the unfortunate title of being a world leader in skin cancer rates;
- b. Skin cancer is one of the most easily preventable types of cancer – avoided through awareness and practice of sun safety behaviours;
- c. Government, medical and scientific bodies and other organisations are very effective in conveying sun smart messages, particularly for children;
- d. Research carried out in the summer of 2019 assessed parental and primary caregiver’s attitudes towards sun safe hat and sunscreen use at a major children’s playground in the ACT. Findings identified that:
 - i. nearly one-third of caregivers were not wearing sunscreen;
 - ii. nearly three-quarters were not wearing a sun-safe hat for their entire period of time at the playground;
 - iii. over 80% believe it is important to model sun smart behaviours;
 - iv. 93% stated a desire for government-supported sun safety messaging at playgrounds to reinforce and support good sun-safety practices by parents/adults and the child/children in their care;
- e. There is significant room for improvement in the use of sun-safe hats and sunscreen for adults in ACT playgrounds; and
- f. Improved sun smart messaging would provide a public health benefit for dermatology and skin cancer prevention strategies.

(2) Calls on the ACT Government to:

- a. Explore opportunity to convey sun-smart/sun-safety messaging – for parents and caregivers as well as children – in ACT playgrounds through:
 - a. Murals painted by local artists; and/or
 - b. Posters and other forms of signage.



Dr Marisa Paterson MLA
9 November 2021