Minnesota has become the second state in the Midwest to prohibit anyone under the age of 18 from using indoor tanning beds. Under HF 2402, tanning-bed owners and operators will be charged with a misdemeanor for violating the state statute. Illinois’ under-18 ban (HB 188) was signed into law last year.

According to the Melanoma Research Alliance, 10 other U.S. states have under-18 prohibitions in place. In September this year, with passage of SB 50, Indiana joined Wisconsin in banning the use of tanning beds for anyone 15 and under. Other Midwestern states have chosen to allow teenagers to use tanning beds, but require some kind of parental consent. Nebraska lawmakers passed a bill this year requiring parents to accompany a child under the age of 16 to a tanning bed. LB 132 also requires parents to sign a consent form and the tanning-bed owner or operator to post a sign warning about the danger of overexposure to ultraviolet radiation.

By:
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