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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 3 AS TOPICAL STEROID WITHDRAWAL SYNDROME  
AWARENESS DAY.

1           WHEREAS, Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome, also known as  
2 Topical Steroid Addiction or Red Skin Syndrome, is a severe,  
3 debilitating condition that can arise from intentional or  
4 unintentional exposure to topical steroids; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, topical steroids are widely prescribed and  
7 purchased over the counter to treat acute and chronic skin  
8 conditions, such as eczema, psoriasis, vitiligo, and alopecia  
9 areata; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome is  
12 characterized by skin flushing, inflammation, diffuse spreading  
13 rashes, profuse skin flaking, burning, and itching worse than  
14 the original condition, which typically appear after the use of  
15 topical steroid treatments, between treatments, or after  
16 discontinuing the use of topical steroids; and  
17

18           WHEREAS, it can take several months to several years for  
19 symptoms to subside, leaving some sufferers of Topical Steroid  
20 Withdrawal Syndrome bedridden, housebound, and unable to work,  
21 care for children, or attend school; and  
22

23           WHEREAS, a prolonged withdrawal and recovery period can  
24 take a significant toll on patients' mental health as well as  
25 physical health; and  
26

27           WHEREAS, eighty-one percent of adults and fifty-six percent  
28 of children who experience Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome  
29 report feeling anxious or depressed, and forty-seven percent of  
30 adults and eleven percent of children who experience Topical  
31 Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome report suicidal ideation; and  
32



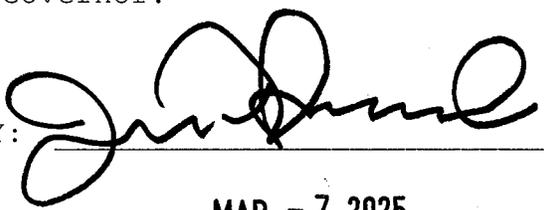
1 WHEREAS, the prevalence of topical steroid addiction and  
 2 Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome are unknown due to a  
 3 scarcity of published research, and the paucity of research on  
 4 Topical Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome impedes efforts to define  
 5 diagnostic criteria for this condition; understand its causes,  
 6 mechanics, and effects; develop appropriate treatment protocols;  
 7 and educate providers and patients about Topical Steroid  
 8 Withdrawal Syndrome and proper steroid stewardship; and  
 9

10 WHEREAS, a lack of awareness of and education about Topical  
 11 Steroid Withdrawal Syndrome can lead to misunderstanding and  
 12 friction between patients and providers, causing patients to  
 13 question their providers' medical oversight and providers to  
 14 suspect their patients of medication non-compliance and,  
 15 occasionally, parental neglect; and  
 16

17 WHEREAS, all parties would benefit greatly from increased  
 18 awareness of and prevention education on the signs of topical  
 19 steroid dependence and the risks of Topical Steroid Withdrawal  
 20 Syndrome; now, therefore,  
 21

22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 23 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 24 of 2025, that February 3 is recognized as Topical Steroid  
 25 Withdrawal Syndrome Awareness Day; and  
 26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
 28 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor.  
 29  
 30  
 31

OFFERED BY:  BR

MAR - 7 2025

