

Support Federal Action on Tick-Borne Diseases

Tick-borne diseases such as Lyme, once considered a local or regional problem, have become an alarming national threat. The number of Americans with tick-borne diseases has been rising at a staggering rate over the past fifteen years. In 2003, Lyme disease infected around 30,000 Americans. The CDC estimates 476,000 new cases of Lyme each year, an astonishing 1,487 percent increase.

Reported cases of Lyme disease are on the rise across the nation.

Implementation of the National Strategy is needed now to end this growing crisis.



CDC, 2003



CDC, 2023

We urge the 119th Congress to swiftly pass the following:

- **Reauthorization of the Kay Hagan Tick Act (H.R. 4348)**- Ensures continued implementation of the National Strategy for Vector-Borne Diseases, reauthorizes Regional Centers of Excellence, and provides state health department grants to strengthen infrastructure for Lyme and other tick-borne diseases.
- **Stamp Out Lyme Disease Act (H.R. 4981)**- Creates a new postage stamp to supplement congressionally appropriated research funding at NIH, boosting investment in R&D for Lyme and tick-borne disease treatments.
- **Tick Identification Pilot Program Act (H.R. 4979)**- Creates state-level grants to fund rapid tick identification programs, improving outbreak response and prevention efforts.
- **BITE Act – Battling Infections Transmitted by Ticks and Exposure (H.R. 4980)**- Creates the world’s first national response system for vector-borne diseases, such as Lyme. Utilizes new technologies, including AI, to monitor high-risk areas & alert nearby individuals via mobile phones to help them prepare & protect themselves.
- **Alpha-gal Allergen Inclusion Act (H.R. 1178)**-Expands the definition of major food allergens to include galactose-alpha-1,3-galactose (*alpha-gal*), the 10th most common food allergy in the U.S., caused by tick bites.

Help ensure our Nation is equipped to prevent, detect and respond to tick-borne diseases.

✓ Cosponsor H.R. 4348, H.R. 4981, H.R. 4979, H.R. 4980, and H.R. 1178

✓ Join the Bipartisan Tick-Borne Disease Caucus

Endorsements: Center for Lyme Action, Bay Area Lyme Foundation, Project Lyme, Lymedisease.org, LymeTV, PA Lyme Resource Network, Louisiana One Health in Action, Colorado Tickborne Disease Awareness Association, The Quiet Epidemic, TiCK MiTT, Generation Lyme, Texas Lyme Alliance, Patient Centered Care Advocacy Group, Insect Shield, San Diego Lyme Alliance, Illinois Lyme Association, LymeLNK, Lyme Treatment Foundation

For more information on the caucus or to cosponsor the Kay Hagan Tick Act, please contact kemper.jolly@mail.house.gov

For more information on the Stamp Act, Tick Identification Pilot Program Act, and BITE Act, please contact zachary.newman@mail.house.gov

For more information or to cosponsor the Alpha-gal Allergen Inclusion Act, please contact noah.garber@mail.house.gov

