

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.
- **LymeX Authorization Act (H.R. 7482)**- Authorizes the \$5M necessary for HHS implementation of the LymeX Innovation Accelerator to fund prize competitions to accelerate innovation in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of Lyme disease.
- **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.
- **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.

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

✓ **Cosponsor H.R. 4348, H.R. 7492, H.R. 1178 H.R. 4981, H.R. 4979, and H.R. 4980**

✓ **Join the Bipartisan Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Caucus**

For more information on the caucus or to cosponsor the Kay Hagan Tick Act and LymeX Authorization, 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

