

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4980

To establish a comprehensive national vector-borne disease prevention system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 15, 2025

Mr. GOTTHEIMER (for himself and Mr. KEAN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a comprehensive national vector-borne disease
prevention system.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Battling Infections
5 Transmitted by Ticks and Exposure Act” or the “BITE
6 Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL VECTOR-BORNE DIS-**
8 **EASE PREVENTION SYSTEM.**

9 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Health and
10 Human Services shall establish and maintain a com-

1 prehensive national vector-borne disease prevention sys-
2 tem.

3 (b) COMPONENTS.—The system described in sub-
4 section (a) shall have the following components:

5 (1) A professional vector identification service,
6 which shall—

7 (A) include relevant information on ticks,
8 mosquitoes, and fleas as vectors of disease;

9 (B) be accessible by civilians and the De-
10 partment of Defense; and

11 (C) support data reporting that integrates
12 human, animal, and environmental data (com-
13 monly known as the “One Health” approach).

14 (2) An artificial intelligence-enhanced early
15 warning system, which shall—

16 (A) predict disease activity with weather,
17 habitat, and wildlife data; and

18 (B) deliver real-time, location-based risk
19 alerts.

20 (3) Insurance claims surveillance to detect out-
21 breaks earlier than traditional methods, which shall
22 include surveillance of claims made with private or
23 public health insurance.

24 (4) Syndromic surveillance, which shall monitor
25 emergency room visits (including at civilian hospitals

1 and military medical treatment facilities) for vector-
2 borne symptoms.

3 (5) Comprehensive public education, which
4 shall—

5 (A) deliver targeted prevention messaging;
6 and

7 (B) inform the public by working with
8 schools, workplaces, media, and community or-
9 ganizations.

10 (6) National strategic alignment, which shall—

11 (A) support a target of a 25 percent reduc-
12 tion in Lyme disease by 2035; and

13 (B) enhance military readiness through
14 early detection and ecosystem health.

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