Public Law 101-66
101st Congress

Joint Resolution

Designating the week beginning July 23, 1989, as "Lyme Disease Awareness Week".

July 28, 1989
[S.J. Res. 142]

Whereas Lyme disease is spread by the tick species Ixodes Dammini by means of the bacterium Burrelia Burgdorferi;
Whereas these ticks are no larger than the head of a pin;
Whereas these ticks can be carried by domestic animals such as cats, dogs, and horses;
Whereas these ticks can be transferred from domestic animals to humans;
Whereas Lyme disease was first diagnosed in southeastern Connecticut and has spread to forty-three States;
Whereas the Centers for Disease Control has reported fourteen thousand cases of Lyme disease since 1982;
Whereas Lyme disease is easily treated in its early stages by an oral vaccine administered by a physician (penicillin and erythromycin for young children and tetracycline for persons allergic to penicillin);
Whereas the early symptoms of Lyme disease are a rash, mild headaches, a slight fever, and swollen glands;
Whereas Lyme disease often mocks rheumatoid arthritis and heart disease;
Whereas if left untreated, Lyme disease can cause severe depression, brain disorders, and even death;
Whereas the best cure for Lyme disease is prevention;
Whereas prevention of Lyme disease depends upon public awareness; and
Whereas education is essential to making the general public and health care professionals more knowledgeable of Lyme disease and its debilitating side effects: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the week beginning July 23, 1989, is designated as "Lyme Disease Awareness Week", and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

Approved July 28, 1989.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 142:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 135 (1989):
June 9, considered and passed Senate.
July 21, considered and passed House.

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