

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7482

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to fund prize competitions to accelerate innovation in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of Lyme disease, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2026

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey (for himself and Mr. DOGGETT) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to fund prize competitions to accelerate innovation in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of Lyme disease, and for other purposes.

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 “LymeX Authorization
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. POLICY.**

7 It is the policy of the United States to—

1 (1) engage stakeholders, including academia,
2 nonprofits, industry, small business, entrepreneurs,
3 and government to facilitate patient-centered innova-
4 tions in Lyme disease care;

5 (2) foster breakthroughs in health education
6 and public awareness initiatives focused on Lyme
7 disease patients; and

8 (3) accelerate development of next-gen
9 diagnostics that are rapid and patient focused.

10 **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There is authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
12 retary of Health and Human Services \$5,000,000 to carry
13 out prize competitions (as defined in section 24 of the Ste-
14 venson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15
15 U.S.C. 3719)) to accelerate innovation in the prevention,
16 diagnosis, and treatment of Lyme disease.

○