



SPONSOR: Sen. Lopez & Rep. Schwartzkopf

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
150th GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 43

DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF MAY 19-25, 2019 AS "LYME DISEASE AWARENESS WEEK" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a bacterial infection caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*; and

2 WHEREAS, Lyme disease can result in severe and lasting effects in human beings, including neurological impacts  
3 and joint disease; and

4 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is most commonly transmitted through the bite of a deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*), and  
5 individuals may have the disease even if they do not have a red bull's eye rash that is often identified as a marker for Lyme  
6 disease; and

7 WHEREAS, some patients treated for Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases will experience lingering  
8 symptoms such as fatigue, pain, and impaired cognitive function that may persist for months or years after treatment; and

9 WHEREAS, Delaware has one of the highest incidence rate of Lyme disease per 100,000 people in the United  
10 States; and

11 WHEREAS, the climate of Delaware makes for an ideal environment for the bacterium-carrying deer tick; and

12 WHEREAS, Delaware, as a state of high incidence of Lyme disease, has a responsibility to the growing number of  
13 Delawareans who have had, or know an individual who has had, this disease to combat it and manage its pervasiveness; and

14 WHEREAS, Delaware is one of the few states that is dedicated to investigating each possible case of Lyme  
15 disease reported to the Bureau of Epidemiology; and

16 WHEREAS, May has been recognized as National Lyme Disease Awareness Month.

17 NOW, THEREFORE:

18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 150th General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the House of  
19 Representatives concurring therein, that the Legislature affirms the importance of Lyme disease awareness and prevention,  
20 and hereby designates May 19-25, 2019 as "Lyme Disease Awareness Week" in the State of Delaware.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature encourages expanded efforts to keep Delaware residents  
22 properly informed about Lyme disease prevention, symptom recognition, and treatment.

### SYNOPSIS

This concurrent resolution designates the week May 19-25, 2019 as "Lyme Disease Awareness Week" in Delaware.

Author: Senator Lopez