

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 188 Session of 2009

INTRODUCED BY HELM, PHILLIPS, HESS, ARGALL, BAKER, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF, BEYER, BOBACK, BOYD, BRENNAN, CAUSER, CLYMER, COHEN, CONKLIN, D. COSTA, CREIGHTON, CUTLER, DELOZIER, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, D. EVANS, EVERETT, FAIRCHILD, FLECK, GEIST, GEORGE, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, GODSHALL, GOODMAN, GROVE, GRUCELA, HARKINS, HARRIS, HENNESSEY, HICKERNELL, HORNAMAN, M. KELLER, KORTZ, KOTIK, KULA, MAJOR, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McCALL, MELIO, MENSCH, MILLARD, MILLER, MOUL, MURT, MUSTIO, OBERLANDER, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PARKER, PAYNE, PEIFER, PICKETT, PYLE, QUINN, RAPP, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, K. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SONNEY, STABACK, STERN, VEREB, VULAKOVICH, WALKO, WATSON, WHEATLEY, WHITE AND CALTAGIRONE, MARCH 24, 2009

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35, MARCH 24, 2009

A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring the month of May 2009 as "Lyme Disease Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a bacterial infection transmitted
4 primarily by ticks and is caused by the spirochete *Borrelia*
5 *burgdorferi*; and

6 WHEREAS, Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases and
7 disorders, such as babesiosis, bartonella and ehrlichiosis, pose
8 a serious threat to the quality of life of many Pennsylvanians,
9 with the frequency of diagnosed and reported Lyme disease cases
10 increasing dramatically over the past several years; and

11 WHEREAS, The most common way to acquire Lyme disease is to be
12 bitten by a tick that carries the spirochete; and

1 WHEREAS, The prevention of Lyme disease and other tick-borne
2 disorders is difficult; and

3 WHEREAS, If proper caution is taken while engaged in outdoor
4 activities from early spring through late fall, as well as
5 during a warmer winter season, frequent tick checks are made and
6 ticks are removed and disposed of promptly and properly, the
7 people of this Commonwealth can greatly reduce their chances of
8 tick pathogen transmission; and

9 WHEREAS, The early clinical diagnosis and appropriate
10 treatment of these tick-borne disorders and diseases can greatly
11 reduce the risks of continued, diverse and chronic symptoms
12 which can affect every system and organ of the human body and
13 often every aspect of their lives; therefore be it

14 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives declare the month
15 of May 2009 as "Lyme Disease Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania in
16 a continued effort to benefit the overall health and quality of
17 life of the citizens of this Commonwealth by increasing their
18 awareness of the threat of infected tick bites and the potential
19 seriousness of Lyme disease and other tick-borne disorders.