

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 652 Session of
2004

INTRODUCED BY E. Z. TAYLOR, HESS, RUBLEY, BARRAR, ALLEN, ARGALL, ARMSTRONG, BAKER, BALDWIN, BASTIAN, BEBKO-JONES, BELFANTI, BENNINGHOFF, BISHOP, BOYD, BROWNE, BUNT, CAPPELLI, CAUSER, CLYMER, CORRIGAN, COY, CRAHALLA, CREIGHTON, CRUZ, CURRY, DALEY, DENLINGER, DeWEESE, DIGIROLAMO, DONATUCCI, EGOLF, J. EVANS, FABRIZIO, FAIRCHILD, FICHTER, FLEAGLE, FORCIER, FRANKEL, GABIG, GEIST, GEORGE, GILLESPIE, GINGRICH, GOOD, GOODMAN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, HARHART, HARPER, HARRIS, HASAY, HENNESSEY, HERMAN, HERSHEY, HICKERNELL, HORSEY, HUTCHINSON, KELLER, KENNEY, KOTIK, LAUGHLIN, LEACH, LEDERER, LEH, LESCOVITZ, MACKERETH, MAITLAND, MAJOR, MARKOSEK, MARSICO, McCALL, McILHATTAN, MELIO, MILLARD, S. MILLER, MUNDY, MUSTIO, NAILOR, O'NEILL, PALLONE, PAYNE, PICKETT, PISTELLA, READSHAW, REICHLEY, ROHRER, ROSS, SAINATO, SANTONI, SATHER, SAYLOR, SCAVELLO, SCHRODER, SHANER, B. SMITH, SOLOBAY, SURRA, TANGRETTI, THOMAS, TIGUE, TRUE, VANCE, WALKO, WASHINGTON, WEBER, WOJNAROSKI AND YOUNGBLOOD, MARCH 30, 2004

INTRODUCED AS NONCONTROVERSIAL RESOLUTION UNDER RULE 35,
MARCH 30, 2004

A RESOLUTION

1 Declaring the month of May 2004 as "Lyme Disease Awareness
2 Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is a bacterial infection carried
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

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

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

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

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

16 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives declare the month
17 of May 2004 as "Lyme Disease Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania in
18 a continued effort to benefit the overall health and quality of
19 life of the citizens of this Commonwealth by increasing their
20 awareness of the threat of infected tick bites and the potential
21 seriousness of Lyme disease and other tick-borne disorders.