

By: Howard

H.R. No. 1545

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases are most
2 frequently diagnosed in the spring and summer months, and Texans
3 need to be aware of the dangers related to these debilitating and
4 potentially fatal illnesses; and

5 WHEREAS, In addition to Lyme disease, which is the most
6 prevalent, tick-transmitted illnesses include Rocky Mountain
7 spotted fever, ehrlichiosis, bartonellosis, babesiosis, and
8 tick-borne relapsing fever; in the State of Texas, the black-legged
9 deer tick, the Lone Star tick, and the brown dog tick are all known
10 carriers of these types of diseases; and

11 WHEREAS, If not properly diagnosed and treated soon after
12 infection occurs, any of these illnesses can become substantially
13 more difficult to treat and can lead to life-threatening
14 complications; and

15 WHEREAS, Lyme disease is the fastest-growing infectious
16 disease and the most common vector-borne illness in Texas, with
17 cases having been reported in every public health region in the
18 state; according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
19 there are more than 300,000 cases of Lyme disease reported annually
20 in the United States; such figures may not give the full picture,
21 however, because Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses are
22 thought to be underreported due to a limited awareness among the
23 public and within medical circles of the serious nature of these
24 easily contracted diseases; and

H.R. No. 1545

1 WHEREAS, Greater public understanding is key to lessening the
2 threat of these diseases in our state, and the observance of Lyme
3 Disease Awareness Month in May will assist in promoting much-needed
4 education on this important health issue; now, therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas
6 Legislature hereby recognize May 2017 as Lyme Disease Awareness
7 Month in the State of Texas and encourage residents to learn more
8 about Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses.