

# DC Lyme Hearing: View & Take Action

The 2 hour July 17, 2012 Congressional hearing, Global Challenges in Diagnosing and Managing Lyme Disease – Closing Knowledge Gaps, was held by the Africa, Global Health and Human Rights Subcommittee on July 17, 2012 in Washington, DC.

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## Significance of Hearing & Links to :

The significance of the hearing is that it is the first time Congress has looked at the global implications of Lyme disease and chronic Lyme disease, and focusing on the science and putting patients first. Witnesses gave testimony about how policies and actions by government agencies such as CDC and NIH and of the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) have hindered research on chronic Lyme disease and have hindered patient diagnosis and treatment. Solid science was presented for the record showing persistence in animal studies and cutting-edge testing for Lyme was examined.

View points from a treating physician, advocate and patient were finally able to become part of public record and part of the solution.

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**View Hearing Video & Links to Prepared Statements (sent to entire committee several days prior to hearing)::**



Video now available here <http://archives-republicans-foreignaffairs.house.gov/hearings/view/?1455>

(Note: To view this video need Flash Player / The actual video does not begin until 29:00 – use your mouse to slide button to right to bring time to 29:00 faster)

Below Video – Congressman Christopher Smith Opening Remarks

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Oral Presentations (approx. 5 minute short spoken statements to committee):



[Ms. Patricia Smith](#), President, Lyme Disease Association, Inc.

([statement](#)) ...

Stephen W. Barthold, Ph.D. ([statement](#))

Raphael Stricker, M.D. ([statement](#))

Mark Eshoo, Ph.D. ([statement](#))

Mr. Evan White ([statement](#))

Ms. Stella Huyshe-Shires ([statement](#))

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**Congressman Smith's News On Hearing:**



May be found on his website at

<http://chrissmith.house.gov/News/DocumentSingle.aspx?DocumentID=303370>

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**Action Items:**

1) The LDA suggests that you send a BRIEF one page fax to the following US House Representatives thanking them for their role (listed after their name in parenthesis) in this hearing:

Congressman Christopher H. Smith (NJ), (Subcommittee Chairman)  
202 225 7768 (fax)

Congresswoman Karen Bass (CA), (Subcommittee Member who attended)  
202 225 2422 (fax)

Congressman Frank Wolf (VA) (attendee) 202 225 0437 (fax)

Congressman Chris Gibson (NY) (attendee) 202 225 1168 (fax)

If any of the congressmen above are your US Representative, you can send an email through their email on their website. Those emails are usually limited to constituents.

2) Contact your US House Representative (one) and your US Senators (two) and ask that they co-sponsor the current Lyme bills in congress.