



Proclamation

WHEREAS, outdoor activities including walking, hiking, camping, backpacking, mountain biking, hunting, fishing, golfing, gardening, ranching, wood splitting, natural resource management of our vast public lands, and travel for outdoor recreation pursuits puts Colorado residents in closer contact with grassy and wooded areas that may be inhabited or infested by ticks which are carried by both wild and domestic animals; and

WHEREAS, tick bites can transmit serious and potentially fatal diseases such as Lyme disease, Babesiosis, Bartonellosis, Anaplasmosis, Ehrlichiosis, Tularemia, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Colorado Tick Fever, and others resulting in fever, rash, or flu-like symptoms; and

WHEREAS, Lyme and other tick-borne diseases may affect the brain, heart, eyes, joints, and other body organs and may mimic many other diseases making diagnosis more difficult; and

WHEREAS, the rate of infection in Colorado may be underreported for all tick-borne diseases due to the difficulty of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, when Lyme and tick-borne diseases are not quickly and properly diagnosed or treated, it may result in severe illness, disability, or death; and

WHEREAS, evaluation of veterinary data demonstrates an annually increasing occurrence of Lyme, Anaplasmosis, and Ehrlichiosis in Colorado dogs; and

WHEREAS, support group participation for Colorado patients afflicted by Lyme and other tick-borne diseases is growing annually; and

WHEREAS, the best protection against tick-borne diseases is prevention and education, use of insect repellent, performance of frequent tick checks, showering immediately upon returning home from outdoor pursuits, proper removal of embedded ticks, prompt diagnosis, and adequate treatment

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the entire State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim, forever after, May 2017, as

LYME AND TICK-BORNE DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

*GIVEN under my hand and the
Executive Seal of the State of
Colorado, this first day of May, 2017*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John W. Hickenlooper". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

*John W. Hickenlooper
Governor*

