

STATE OF NEW YORK
LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY
BUFFALO, N.Y., MAY 11, 2017 A.D.

Hereby certify that at a regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 11th day of May of 2017, A.D. a resolution was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, It is the intention of this honorable body to raise Lyme Disease awareness in Erie County in the hope of preventing the disease from occurring further; and

WHEREAS, The Erie County Legislature hereby designates May 2017 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Lyme Disease is the fastest growing vector-borne disease in the United States that is transmitted by the bite of the common back-legged tick that is less than two millimeters in size and found in nearly one-half of all counties in the United States, including all Western New York counties; and

WHEREAS, According to the Erie County Health Department Vector and Surveillance & Control Field Laboratory, Lyme Disease should be considered a public health threat in Erie County; and

WHEREAS, Lyme Disease-carrying ticks can also harbor at least 15 other pathogens that can be transmitted within minutes of a bite, and result in a viral, parasitic or bacterial infection; and

WHEREAS, Ticks are the most significant vectors of infectious diseases in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Lyme Disease travels through the bloodstream and establishes itself in various bodily tissues, resulting in a number of possible symptoms such as fever, chills, sweats, muscle aches, fatigue, nausea, joint or muscle pain, stiffness or swelling, headache, and a rash characteristic of a bullseye; and

WHEREAS, Lyme Disease can be treated with antibiotics if caught in the early stages, but if left untreated, can wreak havoc on the body by invading the nervous system, heart and multiple other organs of the body; and

WHEREAS, Diagnosis of Lyme Disease is made based on the manifestation of the physical systems associated with the disease, and occasionally laboratory testing; and

WHEREAS, Lyme Disease can be prevented in various ways, such as using insect repellent, removing ticks promptly, applying pesticides to reduce the tick habitat, and taking advantage of local educational resources available to the community; and

WHEREAS, LymeWNY is a Facebook page that provides advocacy and education to our WNY community, as well as offers support and encouragement for victims and their families; and

WHEREAS, It is the hope of this honorable body for residents of Erie County to know the risk factors, symptoms & treatment of Lyme Disease so that proper precautions can be made in treating & preventing the contraction of the disease; and

WHEREAS, Through awareness, knowledge, and proactivity, we can we help curb the spread of Lyme Disease across Erie County, the northeast, and the entire United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this legislative body pauses in its deliberations to recognize May 2017 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month in Erie County.

