WHEREAS: Warm weather increases outdoor activities, and Oregonians work and recreate in our woods, fields, and open areas that may be inhabited or infested by ticks carried by wildlife, birds, and domestic animals; and

WHEREAS: The Oregon Lyme Disease Network has provided 17 years of advocacy for patients and has seen alarming numbers of patients seeking support; and

WHEREAS: The rate of infection of Lyme disease in Oregon could be as high as 800 new cases per year; and

WHEREAS: Ticks can transmit serious and potentially fatal diseases such as Lyme disease, Babesiosis, Bartonellosis, Anaplasmosis, Erlichiosis, Tularemia, and Rickettsial infections; and

WHEREAS: Lyme disease, when not properly diagnosed or treated, may affect the brain, heart, joints, and other organs and mimic many other diseases, making proper diagnosis more difficult; and

WHEREAS: Agency for Health and Research Quality National Guidelines (AHRQ NGC ILADS guidelines) clearinghouse are largely available to all residents and medical providers who are encouraged to take all tick-borne diseases seriously; and

WHEREAS: The best protections against tick-borne diseases are prevention, education, and early treatment.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim May 2018 to be

LYME AND TICK-BORNE DISEASES AWARENESS MONTH

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, May 10, 2018.

Kate Brown, Governor

Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State