

# PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, people are contracting tick borne diseases throughout the U.S. and in Kansas, and they are considered the fastest growing vector borne diseases nationally; and

WHEREAS, the ticks that are most commonly found in Kansas are lone star ticks and black-legged deer ticks which are both transmitting multiple tick-borne diseases; and

WHEREAS, ticks-borne diseases in Kansas include: borrelia burgdorferi, ehrlichiosis, babesia, bartonella, tularemia, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, mycoplasma, and STARI; and

WHEREAS, tick-borne diseases are most easily treated when it is diagnosed early, as dissemination of the disease can cause serious, permanent, and sometimes life-threatening damage to the brain, joints, heart, eyes, liver, spleen, blood vessels, and kidneys; and

WHEREAS, ticks transmitting diseases can be found in woods, parks, beaches, and yards throughout Kansas and the nation; and

WHEREAS, tick-borne diseases are difficult to diagnose because it imitates other conditions and because there is no reliable test to determine infection; and

WHEREAS, the 2011 observance of Tick-Borne Diseases Awareness Month provides a unique opportunity for the citizens of the Sunflower State to work together to raise awareness of the threat and prevention of tick transmitted diseases:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sam Brownback, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim May of 2011, as

## *Tick-Borne Disease Awareness Month*

in Kansas and encourage all Kansans to recognize tick-borne illnesses as a public health threat and to work together to raise awareness of the importance of early detection and treatment of this disease.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka  
under the Great Seal of the  
State this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of  
April, A.D. 2011

BY THE GOVERNOR: \_\_\_\_\_



  
Secretary of State

