

1 AN ACT concerning health.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title; references to Act.

5 (a) This Act may be cited as the Tracking Infectious Cases
6 Knowledgeably Act.

7 (b) This Act may be referred to as the TICK Act.

8 Section 5. Findings. The General Assembly finds that
9 alpha-gal syndrome (AGS) is a serious and potentially
10 life-threatening allergic condition that can occur after a
11 tick bite. AGS is named for a molecule, known as alpha-gal or
12 the Galili antigen, that is found in most mammals. Symptoms of
13 AGS occur after people eat red meat or are exposed to other
14 products made from mammals. Because of this, AGS is also known
15 as the red meat allergy or tick bite meat allergy. The Centers
16 for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has identified AGS as
17 a growing threat to clinical and public health and has
18 identified state-level surveillance of AGS as a critical need.
19 The CDC has identified Illinois as a state with one of the
20 highest AGS prevalence rates in the nation.

21 Section 10. Definitions. In this Act:

22 "Alpha-gal syndrome" or "AGS" means an acquired

1 delayed-type allergic reaction to a sugar molecule called
2 alpha-galactose (alpha-gal), which is typically caused by the
3 bite of an infected lone star tick and can cause serious,
4 potentially life-threatening allergic reactions to consuming
5 meat or other products containing alpha-gal.

6 "Diagnosis" means identification as having Lyme disease or
7 alpha-gal syndrome, either clinically or with laboratory
8 testing confirmation, by (1) a physician licensed to practice
9 medicine in all its branches, (2) a person otherwise permitted
10 to diagnose Lyme disease or alpha-gal syndrome by applicable
11 laws, or (3) another appropriately licensed person under the
12 supervision of or in collaboration with a physician licensed
13 to practice medicine in all its branches.

14 Section 15. Alpha-gal syndrome education. The Department
15 of Public Health shall provide educational materials regarding
16 alpha-gal syndrome data on its website where applicable. The
17 Department of Public Health shall undertake an awareness and
18 education campaign for community members, local health
19 departments, and medical providers on the signs and symptoms
20 of alpha-gal syndrome, including education on proper
21 procedures by which to order a test for diagnosis of alpha-gal
22 syndrome.

23 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
24 becoming law.