

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

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

4 Section 5. The Department of Natural Resources
5 (Conservation) Law of the Civil Administrative Code of
6 Illinois is amended by adding Section 805-72 as follows:

7 (20 ILCS 805/805-72 new)

8 Sec. 805-72. Lyme Disease Innovation Program.

9 (a) The Department shall consult with the Department of
10 Agriculture, the Department of Public Health, and members of
11 the University of Illinois' INHS Medical Entomology Program to
12 establish the Lyme Disease Innovation Program no later than
13 one year after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the
14 103rd General Assembly. The Department shall contract with an
15 Illinois not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to raise
16 awareness of tick-borne diseases with the public and the
17 medical community to operate the Program. The Program's
18 purpose is to raise awareness with the public and to assist
19 persons at risk of Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases
20 with education and awareness materials and campaigns while
21 developing evidence-based approaches that are cost-effective.

22 (b) The Program shall implement a statewide interagency
23 and multipronged approach to combat Lyme disease and other

1 tick-borne diseases in Illinois, including adopting an
2 evidence-based model that recognizes the key roles that
3 patients, advocates, and not-for-profit organizations have in
4 fighting Lyme disease and tick-borne diseases. The Program's
5 objectives include issuing grants, subject to the approval of
6 the Department, to State agencies and Illinois not-for profit
7 organizations from moneys in the Lyme Disease Awareness Fund
8 and other appropriations for the following purposes:

9 (1) Bringing awareness of Lyme disease and tick-borne
10 diseases by any one or more of the following methods:

11 (A) creating innovative ideas and collaborations
12 for raising awareness about risks and prevention;

13 (B) amplifying and improving access to essential
14 information supporting innovations in prevention,
15 education, and care with open data and science;

16 (C) fostering the development of new,
17 community-based education and prevention efforts; and

18 (D) using programs, website advertising,
19 pamphlets, or other methods to increase the awareness
20 of Lyme disease and tick-borne diseases;

21 (2) Engaging stakeholders to facilitate
22 patient-centered innovations by (i) building trust among
23 stakeholders through listening sessions, roundtables, and
24 other learning approaches that ground innovations in lived
25 experience, (ii) engaging stakeholders in identifying
26 current areas of need to promote targeted innovations that

1 will make real-world improvements in quality of care, and
2 (iii) gaining insight into patient needs and priorities
3 through stakeholders' collective wisdom and applying that
4 wisdom in shaping future innovation challenges and events.

5 (3) Advancing stakeholder driven interdisciplinary and
6 interagency collaborations by providing resources to
7 not-for-profit organizations whose purpose is to raise
8 awareness of tick-borne diseases with the public and the
9 medical community in order to (i) facilitate the
10 stakeholder engagement and collaborations and
11 patient-centered innovations and support groups, (ii)
12 identify ways to better collect and share data while
13 raising awareness of tick-borne illnesses, and (iii)
14 assist with the development of outreach and education
15 materials and approaches for State agencies.

16 (4) The University of Illinois' INHS Medical
17 Entomology Program maintaining a passive tick and
18 tick-borne pathogen surveillance program, based on ticks
19 contributed by the Illinois public, and including tick
20 identifications and disease-agent testing of a subset of
21 identified ticks; compiling evidence and conducting
22 research on tick bite prevention and risk of tick and
23 tick-borne pathogen exposure; and providing evidence,
24 results, and analysis and insight from both the passive
25 surveillance program, on tick species and tick-borne
26 disease-agent distributions and diversity in the State,

1 and its related research on tick bite exposure and
2 prevention, to support the Lyme Disease Innovation Program
3 objectives.

4 (c) The Program shall be funded through moneys deposited
5 into the Lyme Disease Awareness Fund and other appropriations.
6 The not-for-profit organization contracted with to operate the
7 Program shall be paid, subject to the approval of the
8 Department, for its operation of the Program from moneys
9 deposited into the Fund or from other appropriations.

10 The University of Illinois' Prairie Research Institute
11 shall be paid, subject to the approval of the Department, for
12 the INHS Medical Entomology Program's operation of a passive
13 tick surveillance and research program from moneys deposited
14 into the Fund or from other appropriations.

15 (d) The Department must adopt rules to implement this
16 Section.

17 Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
18 Section 5.990 as follows:

19 (30 ILCS 105/5.990 new)

20 Sec. 5.990. The Lyme Disease Awareness Fund.

21 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
22 becoming law.