

**STATE OF MAINE**

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**IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD**

**TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE**

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**JOINT RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING MAY 2023 AS LYME  
DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention reported over 2,600 probable cases of Lyme disease in 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the actual incidence of Lyme disease in Maine is likely much higher than reported; and

**WHEREAS**, Lyme disease disproportionately affects children between 5 and 15 years of age and adults over 65 years of age; and

**WHEREAS**, tickborne illness can be prevented by staying in the center of wooded paths, wearing light-colored, long-sleeved clothing, using an insect repellent approved by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, performing daily tick checks and properly removing ticks; and

**WHEREAS**, the 124th Legislature enacted Public Law Chapter 494, An Act To Enhance Public Awareness of Lyme Disease, which designated May as Lyme Disease Awareness Month and required the promotion of public awareness and education on Lyme disease and other tickborne illnesses; and

**WHEREAS**, public awareness and education are necessary to help reduce tickborne illnesses in Maine by promoting awareness of Lyme disease and other tickborne illnesses and the regular use of prevention measures, as illustrated by the 2023 information campaign "Tick Free ME" produced by the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the First Special Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to recognize May 2023 as Lyme Disease Awareness Month and to respectfully urge all the citizens of Maine to become aware of the steps that can be taken to reduce the risk of tickborne illnesses.