

Public Health Committee

House Bill #6200

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF LONG-TERM ANTIBIOTICS FOR THE TREATMENT OF LYME DISEASE

I am writing today because it is very important not just for me, but for all Americans to make sure that a physician's ability to prescribe long-term antibiotics for Lyme disease is protected. Lyme Disease is the fastest growing infectious disease in the U.S.. If your family is not directly affected by it yet, it is highly likely that you will know someone close to you with this disease in the coming years.

By passing this bill, you will insure that your family member or friend, or even yourself, will be allowed access to proper treatment for this disease.

I myself, have Lyme disease and currently do not have a physician who will prescribe long term antibiotics for me. I have previously been treated with long term antibiotics and was feeling much better, but unfortunately my Lyme specialist closed his practice. In the past several months my neurological symptoms have returned and increased incredibly, leaving me incapacitated. This is directly related to no longer having access to antibiotic treatment. And sadly this could happen to you or someone close to you if this bill does not pass.

Lyme disease is epidemic, but especially in CT. I believe that if CT passes this bill you will not only be helping the residents of your state, but also be serving as a positive example for other states, showing that in this country, people with serious diseases do deserve to be treated properly and do deserve easily available access to proper health care. It is vital that we allow physicians to treat their patients competently. As this is the fastest growing infectious disease in the country, there will be dire consequences in our country's future if something is not done now.

Please pass this bill.

Sincerely,

Allison Neal
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