

Please add the following testimony to Raised Bill S. B. 207 - AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR A LYME DISEASE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM submissions:

Chairs and Members of the Committee on Children

I am writing in support of Raised Bill S. B. 207 - AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR A LYME DISEASE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM because the BLAST Lyme disease prevention program model is easy to remember and easy to share. But many volunteers who disseminate this information are often seriously affected by Lyme disease. They do not have the stamina to continually reach out to people.

The public welcomes a simple message on how to prevent Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses. The BLAST message has been shared with the public through many venues in Danbury. We have gone to local corporations such as Boehringer-Ingelheim, Goodrich, and United Technologies and we have given presentations to the Danbury Senior Center, the Danbury Museum, and the Danbury Fire Department. We have also gotten the message out during Clean City Danbury Day, the regional waste collection day, the Greater Danbury Women Ministries community Health Fair and other health fairs including Danbury Children First - Family Fun Night & Resource Fair.

Unfortunately, numerous people have not heard the message because many volunteers are physically unable to do more. They are too ill and that is why the state needs to become more involved in implementing and sustaining a prevention program.

The prevention message needs to be consistent and persistent. It needs to be repeated often to be effective. Please vote in favor of S. B. 207 - AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR A LYME DISEASE PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Frances Ryan  
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