

**SJR85 ENROLLED**



1 SJR85  
2 74WDE2V-2  
3 By Senators Melson, Waggoner  
4 RFD: RULES  
5 First Read: 08-May-24



## SJR85 Enrolled

1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR\_\_\_ PROCLAIMING JUNE 2024 AS TICK-BORNE DISEASE AND

5 ILLNESS AWARENESS MONTH IN THE STATE OF ALABAMA.

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7 WHEREAS, the health and well-being of the residents

8 and visitors to the State of Alabama are of paramount

9 importance to this legislative body; and

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WHEREAS, tick-borne diseases and illnesses, including

11 Lyme disease and spotted fever rickettsiosis, which includes

12 Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, become prevalent in the spring

13 and summer seasons; and

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WHEREAS, because the symptoms of Lyme disease and

15 other tick-borne illnesses are similar to flu and cold

16 symptoms, these illnesses are often misdiagnosed; and

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WHEREAS, tick-borne diseases and illnesses have been

18 on the rise nationally; in Alabama, the number of cases of

19 Lyme disease almost doubled from 36 in 2018 to 66 in 2019;

20 and the number of cases of spotted fever rickettsiosis, the

21 most common tick-borne illness in Alabama, increased from 14

22 in 2000 to 673 in 2018; and

23

WHEREAS, researchers have also identified emerging

24 threats from ticks, including a couple of illnesses in

25 humans caused by tick-borne pathogens they previously

26 believed only infected animals; the new Heartland virus,

27 identified in 2009, is carried by lone star ticks; now

28 therefore,



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29           BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH  
30 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That June 2024 is hereby declared  
31 Tick-Borne Disease and Illness Awareness Month; the best  
32 prevention to tick-borne disease and illness is through  
33 encouraging awareness of the symptoms and variety of  
34 diseases and illnesses that ticks carry.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR85

Senate 08-May-24

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,  
Secretary.

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House of Representatives

Passed: 08-May-24

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By: Senator Melson