

.....  
(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

To establish a comprehensive national vector-borne disease prevention system.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. GOTTHEIMER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**A BILL**

To establish a comprehensive national vector-borne disease  
prevention system.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Battling Infections  
5       Transmitted by Ticks and Exposure Act” or the “BITE  
6       Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL VECTOR-BORNE DIS-**  
2 **EASE PREVENTION SYSTEM.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Health and  
4 Human Services shall establish and maintain a com-  
5 prehensive national vector-borne disease prevention sys-  
6 tem.

7 (b) COMPONENTS.—The system described in sub-  
8 section (a) shall have the following components:

9 (1) A professional vector identification service,  
10 which shall—

11 (A) include relevant information on ticks,  
12 mosquitoes, and fleas as vectors of disease;

13 (B) be accessible by civilians and the De-  
14 partment of Defense; and

15 (C) support data reporting that integrates  
16 human, animal, and environmental data (com-  
17 monly known as the “One Health” approach).

18 (2) An artificial intelligence–enhanced early  
19 warning system, which shall—

20 (A) predict disease activity with weather,  
21 habitat, and wildlife data; and

22 (B) deliver real-time, location-based risk  
23 alerts.

24 (3) Insurance claims surveillance to detect out-  
25 breaks earlier than traditional methods, which shall

1 include surveillance of claims made with private or  
2 public health insurance.

3 (4) Syndromic surveillance, which shall monitor  
4 emergency room visits (including at civilian hospitals  
5 and military medical treatment facilities) for vector-  
6 borne symptoms.

7 (5) Comprehensive public education, which  
8 shall—

9 (A) deliver targeted prevention messaging;  
10 and

11 (B) inform the public by working with  
12 schools, workplaces, media, and community or-  
13 ganizations.

14 (6) National strategic alignment, which shall—

15 (A) support a target of a 25 percent reduc-  
16 tion in Lyme disease by 2035; and

17 (B) enhance military readiness through  
18 early detection and ecosystem health.