

YOU CAN HELP FIGHT LYME DISEASE – IT ONLY TAKES 5 MINUTES!

On Tuesday, April 28, the House Public Health committee unanimously approved HCR152, our bill calling upon Lt. Governor Dewhurst and Speaker of the House Strauss to convene an INTERIM STUDY of Lyme disease. An interim study would provide the forum we desperately need to bring together all of the state agencies, medical experts and patients to discuss all aspects of diagnosing and treating LD in Texas.

HCR152 has now been referred to the House Calendars committee which may schedule the bill for debate on the House floor – or it may not. Our bill has a far better chance of getting scheduled – and of passing in the whole House of Representatives – if we get our elected Representatives to sign on as “co-authors” of the bill. HCR152 was originally filed by Rep. Todd Hunter (Corpus Christi) and both Donna Howard (Austin) and Elliot Naishtat (Austin) have signed on as co-authors – but, the more, the merrier.

Please help by asking your State Representative to sign on as a co-author of HCR152. It’s super easy....

You can contact your State Rep by email or by phone (which is far more effective). Here’s how:

1. Find your State Rep by visiting this website, <http://www.house.state.tx.us/resources/faq.htm#who_rep> and entering your address. The website will tell you who all of your elected representatives are, but you should scroll down to find your “Texas State Representative”. Click on their name to go to their web page.

2. On the State Rep’s web page, you’ll find their **phone number** and a link to “**Send Email**” to them.

3. Try you call, ask to speak to whoever on the Representative’s staff handles **Public Health** issues. Here’s a suggested script:

I’m one of the Representative’s constituents and I live in _____. I’m calling to ask the Representative to sign on as a co-author of a bill that’s very important to me. House Concurrent Resolution 152 was recently passed unanimously by the House Public Health committee immediately after its public hearing. It calls for an interim study of Lyme disease, a terrible disease that <insert your personal story here but be brief>. The bill has been referred to the Calendars committee and with the Representative’s help, we hope to advance it to the floor for a vote. Please ask the Representative to sign on as a co-author. Thank you.

4. If you click on the email link, you must enter your contact information and then you can paste this blurb into the message section:

I’m one of the Representative’s constituents and I live in _____. I’m emailing to ask the Representative to sign on as a co-author of a bill that’s very important to me. House Concurrent Resolution 152 was recently passed unanimously by the House Public Health committee immediately after its public hearing. It calls for an interim study of Lyme disease, a terrible disease that <insert your personal story here but be brief>. The bill has been referred to the Calendars committee and with the Representative’s help; we hope to advance it to the floor for a vote. Please ask the Representative to sign on as a co-author. Thank you.

You can track the progress of HCR152 and see who has signed on as a co-author by clicking here: <<http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=81R&Bill=HCR152>>. Note that it often takes a few days for this website to be updated.