

## S 1503

### Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Prevention, Education, and Research Act of 2015

**Congress:** 114 (2015–2017, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Jun 4, 2015

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. (Jun 4, 2015)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/1503>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** CT • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Ayotte, Kelly [R-NH]	R · NH		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. Coons, Christopher A. [D-DE]	D · DE		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. Gillibrand, Kirsten E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. Schumer, Charles E. [D-NY]	D · NY		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jun 4, 2015
Sen. King, Angus S., Jr. [I-ME]	I · ME		Jun 10, 2015
Sen. Collins, Susan M. [R-ME]	R · ME		Sep 9, 2015
Sen. Leahy, Patrick J. [D-VT]	D · VT		Sep 9, 2015
Sen. Shaheen, Jeanne [D-NH]	D · NH		Sep 9, 2015
Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]	D · WI		Oct 21, 2015
Sen. Kirk, Mark Steven [R-IL]	R · IL		Jan 21, 2016
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Apr 5, 2016
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Apr 11, 2016
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Apr 26, 2016
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Sep 7, 2016

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 4, 2015

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Health

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
114 HR 665	Related bill	Feb 6, 2015: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

### Summary (as of Jun 4, 2015)

#### Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Prevention, Education, and Research Act of 2015

This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish the Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee to advise HHS on how to: (1) ensure coordination with other federal agencies, private organizations, and constituency groups regarding efforts to address Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases; (2) ensure that a broad spectrum of scientific viewpoints is considered in public health policy decisions and that information disseminated to the public and physicians is based on the best available science; and (3) advise federal agencies on priorities related to tick-borne diseases.

HHS must coordinate federal activities related to tick-borne diseases and conduct or support activities related to tick-borne diseases, including:

- developing diagnostic tools and tests,
- improving the efficient utilization of diagnostic tests,
- surveillance and reporting,
- providing and promoting access to a clearinghouse of information,
- increasing public education,
- creating a physician education program on the latest research and treatment options for Lyme disease,
- research on tick repellents and strategies for the control of ticks,
- exploring the potential for vaccines,
- establishing epidemiological research objectives, and
- determining the effectiveness of different treatments.

HHS must report on scientific conferences that cost the federal government more than \$100,000 and address tick-borne diseases.

### Actions Timeline

- Jun 4, 2015: Introduced in Senate
- Jun 4, 2015: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.