



100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

*Celebrating the Adventure * Continuing the Journey*

June 26, 2009

Congressman Frank R. Wolf
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Wolf:

As the Boy Scouts of America helps build the future leaders of our country through instilling values, building character, and an array of educational activities, the health and well being of each Scout remains our top priority.

As you know, Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases are known risks to the Scouting Community as we provide programs in our outdoor classroom. We are aware of your work on the Lyme and Tick-Borne Diseases Prevention, Education, and Research legislation (H.R. 1179) introduced by the co-chairs of the bipartisan House Lyme Disease Caucus and support this effort to raise public awareness about the threat of Lyme.

You may be interested to know that protecting Scouts from deer ticks is addressed throughout the literature and advancement requirements put forward by the Boy Scouts of America including the Boy Scout Handbook, First Aid Merit Badge Pamphlet, and National Scout Jamboree guides. Our literature focuses on both prevention efforts such as staying away from tick habitats, use of repellents, tick removal, and proper first-aid and follow-up care in the event of a tick bite.

Reviewing the legislation you have put forward, we believe an additional provision to study and identify ways to reduce the deer tick population would be useful in protecting Scouts and others from Lyme. Similar efforts have been made in communities across America to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds thereby reducing the spread of West Nile Virus.

Again, we appreciate your work on this issue. With the summer months upon us and Boy Scouts across the country spending an increasing amount of time outdoors, raising awareness about Lyme is particularly important.

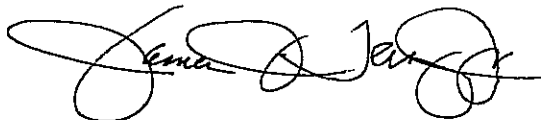


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Please let us know if we can be of additional assistance to you and your colleagues on the House Lyme Disease Caucus.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James J. Terry, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

James J. Terry, Jr.
Assistant Chief Scout Executive
Chief Financial Officer

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