STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, warm weather increases outdoor activities, and Hoosiers work and recreate in our woods, yards, fields, and open areas that may be inhabited by ticks carried by wildlife, mice, deer, birds, and domestic animals; and

WHEREAS, ticks may carry Lyme disease as well as other bacteria, parasites and viruses; and

WHEREAS, Lyme disease is most commonly transmitted through the bite of a tick as small as a poppy seed, infection can occur in less than 24 hours, and infected persons may not have a classic "bullseye" rash; and

WHEREAS, current two-tiered testing is only 50 percent accurate, and if not diagnosed early and treated properly, Lyme disease can result in severe and lasting cognitive, neuropsychiatric, and musculoskeletal conditions; and

WHEREAS, the national annual incidence of Lyme disease exceeds 300,000 cases and, one out of 30 dogs tested positive for Lyme disease in Indiana in 2017; and

WHEREAS, the best protection against tick-borne diseases is prevention, education and early diagnosis;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Eric J. Holcomb, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim the first week of May 2018 as

LYME AND TICK-BORNE DISEASE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of State. Done at the City of Indianapolis, this 2nd day of April the year of our Lord 2018 and of the Independence of the United States 242.

BY THE GOVERNOR, Eric J. Holcomb