

Section 1 Header

2010 SESSION

10-2200.0

10/01

HOUSE BILL *[bill number]*

AN ACT relative to the use of long-term antibiotics for the treatment of Lyme disease

SPONSORS: [sponsors]

COMMITTEE: [committee]

ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes physicians to prescribe long-term antibiotics for therapeutic purposes to patients diagnosed with Lyme disease.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

Section 2 Header

10-2200.0
10/01

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and Ten

AN ACT relative to the use of long-term antibiotics for the treatment of Lyme disease.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representative in General Court convened:

1 New Section; Physicians: Treatment of Lyme Disease. Amend RSA 329 by inserting after section 31 the following section:

329:32 Treatment of Lyme disease. A licensed physician may prescribe, administer, or dispense antibiotic therapy for therapeutic purposes to a person diagnosed with and having symptoms of Lyme disease if a diagnosis and treatment plan has been documented in the physician's medical record for that patient. No licensed physician may be subject to disciplinary action solely for prescribing, administering, or dispensing long-term antibiotic therapy for a patient clinically diagnosed with Lyme disease, if a diagnosis and treatment plan has been documented in the physician's medical record for that patient.

I. In this section:

- a. "Licensed physician" means a physician licensed under this chapter (RSA 329).
- b. "Long-term antibiotic therapy" means the administration of oral, intramuscular or intravenous antibiotics, singly or in combination, for periods of time in excess of four weeks
- c. "Lyme disease" means the clinical diagnosis by a licensed physician of the presence in a patient of signs or symptoms compatible with acute infection with *Borrelia burgdorferi*; or with late stage or persistent or chronic infection with *Borrelia burgdorferi*, or with complications related to such an infection; or such other strains of borrelia that are recognized by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as a cause of Lyme disease. Lyme disease includes an infection that meets the surveillance criteria set forth by the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and other acute and chronic manifestations of such an infection as determined by a licensed physician.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.