

AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 117-54
OFFERED BY MR. KATKO OF NEW YORK

At the end of title LVIII of division E, add the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . TICK IDENTIFICATION PILOT PROGRAM.**

2 (a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—The Secretary of Health and
3 Human Services, acting through the Director of the Cen-
4 ters for Disease Control and Prevention, may award
5 grants to States to implement a tick identification pro-
6 gram.

7 (b) **PRIORITY.**—In awarding grants under this sec-
8 tion, the Secretary shall give priority to States that—

9 (1) have more reported cases of Lyme disease;
10 and

11 (2) submit an effective plan for implementation
12 and maintenance of a tick identification program.

13 (c) **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.**—Any program fund-
14 ed under this section shall—

15 (1) allow individuals to submit electronically
16 photo images of ticks encountered;

17 (2) require images of ticks to be submitted with
18 the likely geographic location where the ticks were

1 encountered, the date on which the ticks were en-
2 countered, and the likely physical location where the
3 ticks were found (for example, on a pet, on a
4 human, or loose);

5 (3) after review by a qualified professional, re-
6 spond to the individual directly within 72 hours of
7 the image being received with—

8 (A) if possible, identification of the species
9 and life stage of the tick;

10 (B) if possible, an estimate of the risk that
11 the tick carried a tick-borne disease;

12 (C) a recommendation of the best practices
13 for the individual who encountered the tick, in-
14 cluding with respect to seeking medical evalua-
15 tion and submitting the tick for testing; and

16 (D) additional education on best methods
17 to avoid ticks and prevent contagion of tick-
18 borne illnesses; and

19 (4) maintain a database of reported tick inci-
20 dents, including—

21 (A) the date, geographic location, and envi-
22 ronment of the encounter;

23 (B) any identifying information about the
24 tick that was determined; and

1 (C) best practices that were disseminated
2 to each reporting individual.

3 (d) APPLICATION.—To seek a grant under this sec-
4 tion, a State shall submit an application at such time, in
5 such form, and containing such information as the Sec-
6 retary may prescribe.

7 (e) DATA COLLECTION; REPORT.—

8 (1) DATA COLLECTION.—The Secretary shall
9 collect, with respect to each State program funded
10 under this section and each fiscal year, the following
11 data:

12 (A) The number of tick incidents reported.

13 (B) For each incident reported—

14 (i) the date, geographic location, and
15 environment of the encounter;

16 (ii) any identifying information about
17 the tick that was determined; and

18 (iii) best practices that were dissemi-
19 nated to each reporting individual.

20 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the
21 first day of each of fiscal years 2023 through 2026,
22 the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Con-
23 gress a report on the data collected under paragraph
24 (1).

25 (f) DEFINITION.—In this section:

1 (1) The term “qualified professional” means a
2 biologist with a background in vector biology.

3 (2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
4 of Health and Human Services, acting through the
5 Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
6 vention.

