

[First Reprint]

**SENATE CONCURRENT  
RESOLUTION No. 63**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
208th LEGISLATURE**

INTRODUCED JUNE 15, 1998

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LEONARD T. CONNORS, JR.**

**District 9 (Atlantic, Burlington and Ocean)**

**Senator MARTHA W. BARK**

**District 8 (Atlantic, Burlington and Camden)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

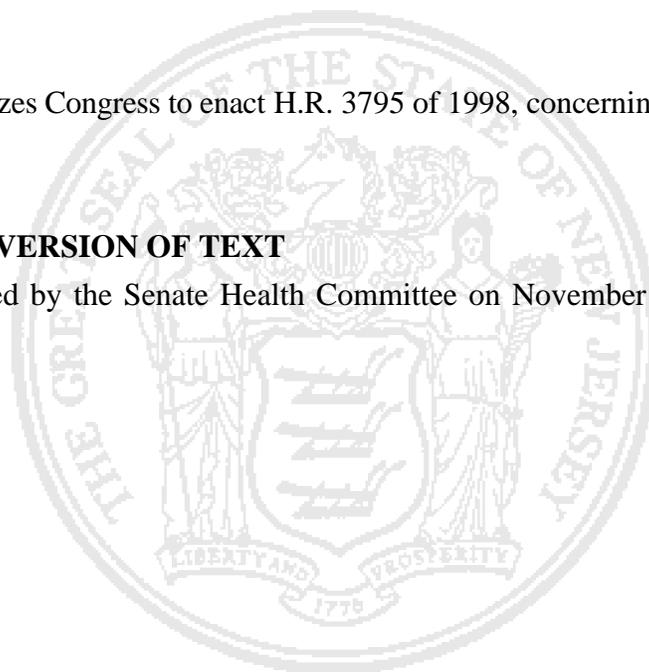
**Senator Singer**

**SYNOPSIS**

Memorializes Congress to enact H.R. 3795 of 1998, concerning Lyme disease research.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Senate Health Committee on November 23, 1998, with amendments.



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2

1 **A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION** memorializing Congress to enact H.R. 3795  
2 of 1998<sup>1</sup>, concerning Lyme disease research.

3

4 **WHEREAS**, Lyme disease is a bacterial infection which is spread by certain  
5 arthropods, primarily ticks, and is one of the fastest growing public health  
6 problems in New Jersey; and

7 **WHEREAS**, If untreated, Lyme disease, in its later stages, can result in  
8 neurological disorders, including, but not limited to, chronic and severe  
9 fatigue, encephalitis, meningitis, memory loss, dementia and seizures; severe  
10 arthritis; cardiac dysfunction; vision loss, gastrointestinal disorders,  
11 paralysis, strokes and death; and

12 **WHEREAS**, The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
13 (CDC) reports that Lyme disease continues to be a rapidly emerging  
14 infectious disease, representing the most common tick-borne illness in the  
15 nation; and

16 **WHEREAS**, New Jersey has an estimated 13,000 of the country's 113,000  
17 reported Lyme disease patients with many of those infected living in  
18 Monmouth county; and

19 **WHEREAS**, The incidence of Lyme disease continues to increase in ~~some~~  
20 endemic areas and has emerged as a significant threat to public health  
21 in the northeastern United States, which, along with Wisconsin, accounts  
22 for 90% of the nationally reported cases; and

23 **WHEREAS**, H.R. 3795 of 1998<sup>1</sup>, sponsored by Congressman Christopher  
24 Smith, calls on the Secretary of Health and Human Services, along with  
25 other agencies, to develop a five-year action plan to advance the treatment  
26 of and cure for Lyme disease. The legislation would also help in  
27 establishing a coordinated federal effort in Lyme disease research and  
28 education; and

29 **WHEREAS**, It is the obligation of the federal government to mount a full-scale  
30 effort which will bring relief to the thousands of individuals who suffer from  
31 this disease, many of them children; H.R. 3795 of 1998<sup>1</sup> would help by  
32 fostering interagency coordination and creating a framework within which  
33 the government can launch a comprehensive effort in finding effective  
34 treatments and, ultimately, a cure for Lyme disease; now, therefore;

35

36 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of New Jersey (the General  
37 Assembly concurring):

38

39 1. The Congress of the United States is respectfully memorialized to enact

**EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.**

**Matter underlined thus is new matter.**

**Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:**

**<sup>1</sup> Senate SHH committee amendments adopted November 23, 1998.**

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1 H.R. 3795 of 1998, which requires <sup>1</sup>[the]<sup>1</sup> Secretary of Health and Human  
2 Services, along with other agencies, to develop a five-year action plan to  
3 advance the treatment of and cure for Lyme disease.

4

5 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the President of  
6 the Senate and the Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the  
7 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the General Assembly, shall be  
8 transmitted to the presiding officers of the Congress of the United States and  
9 each member of New Jersey's Congressional delegation.