

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Ward and others

Subject: Treatment for chronic Lyme disease

Analyst: Lynn F. Aves, 651-296-8079

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Section

1 Long-term antibiotic therapy for chronic Lyme disease.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines “chronic Lyme disease” as the presence of signs and symptoms of Lyme disease that persist after the completion of an established course of antibiotic treatment.

Defines “clinical diagnosis” as a diagnosis based on information from medical history and physical examination or in conjunction with testing that supports the diagnosis.

Defines “long-term antibiotic therapy” as the prolonged administration of antibiotics for more than 28 days.

Subd. 2. Long-term antibiotic therapy. Paragraph (a) provides that a physician shall not be subject to disciplinary action solely for using long-term antibiotic therapy with a patient who has been diagnosed with chronic Lyme disease.

Paragraph (b) allows the board to bring disciplinary action against a physician who fails to monitor the care of a patient who is receiving long-term antibiotic therapy or fails to keep complete and accurate records related to a patient who is receiving long-term antibiotic therapy.

2 Effective date. Provides an immediate effective date.