



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

John J. Bonacic

## Senator Bonacic Supports Senate Resolution that Invests \$1 Million to Combat Lyme and Tick-Borne Diseases

JOHN J. BONACIC June 21, 2018



**(Albany, NY)-** State Senator John J. Bonacic (R/C/I-Mt. Hope) supported a Senate Resolution that was passed this week that would provide a record \$1 million to help fight the scourge of Lyme and other tick-borne diseases (TBDs) throughout the state. The new funding will help support a wide variety of local investments identified by the Senate's Task Force on Lyme and Tick-Borne Diseases, which Senator Bonacic serves on, to increase education, research, prevention, and treatment options, and combat the ongoing increase in TBDs throughout New York.

The Senate Majority – and specifically the Task Force – led the charge in securing this historic level of funding in the 2018-19 state budget. Based on the Task Force's recommendations, the final budget restores \$400,000 in Executive Budget cuts and includes \$600,000 in new funding for a total of \$1 million.

“For years, New Yorkers have dealt with the devastating impacts of Lyme and tick-borne diseases, and this funding will continue the fight against the devastating impacts,” said Senator Bonacic.

Highlights of the resolution passed today include:

- Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies, Inc. – \$192,000 to research community-based prevention methods;
- Stony Brook University – \$175,000 to open a state-of-the art infectious disease laboratory;
- Cornell University – \$130,000 to study the distribution of ticks and the diseases they carry in various parts of the state;
- New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) – \$112,000 to increase public awareness throughout New York;
- SUNY Adirondack – \$100,000 for laboratory research on lesser-known TBDs;
- Southampton Hospital – \$75,000 to fund the Tick-Borne Disease Resource Center;
- New York State Department of Health – \$60,000 to increase the number of tick collection sites in New York;
- Cornell Cooperative Extension – \$26,000 for a series of regional Lyme and TBD forums; and
- New York State Department of Health – \$25,000 to continue database mining.

