

**House File 577 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 577  
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN  
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 112)

(COMPANION TO LSB 2078SV BY  
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to exemptions from disciplinary action for  
2 persons licensed to practice health-related professions  
3 based on their treatment of Lyme disease or other tick-borne  
4 diseases, and including effective date provisions.  
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 147.56 Lyme disease treatment —  
2 exemption from discipline.

3 A person licensed by a board under this subtitle shall not  
4 be subject to discipline under this chapter or the board's  
5 enabling statute based solely on the licensee's recommendation  
6 or provision of a treatment method for Lyme disease or other  
7 tick-borne disease if the recommendation or provision of such  
8 treatment meets all the following criteria:

9 1. The treatment is provided after an examination is  
10 performed and informed consent is received from the patient.

11 2. The licensee identifies a medical reason for  
12 recommending or providing the treatment.

13 3. The treatment is provided after the licensee informs the  
14 patient about other recognized treatment options and describes  
15 to the patient the licensee's education, experience, and  
16 credentials regarding the treatment of Lyme disease or other  
17 tick-borne disease.

18 4. The licensee uses the licensee's own medical judgment  
19 based on a thorough review of all available clinical  
20 information and Lyme disease or other tick-borne disease  
21 literature to determine the best course of treatment for the  
22 individual patient.

23 5. The treatment will not, in the opinion of the licensee,  
24 result in the direct and proximate death of or serious bodily  
25 injury to the patient.

26 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE UPON ENACTMENT. This Act, being deemed of  
27 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

28 EXPLANATION

29 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
30 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

31 This bill exempts licensees of health-related professions  
32 provided for in Code chapter 147 from discipline based solely  
33 on the licensee's recommendation or provision of treatment of  
34 Lyme disease or other tick-borne disease if informed consent  
35 is received from the patient and a prior examination of the

1 patient is conducted, the licensee identifies a medical reason  
2 for recommending or providing such treatment, the treatment is  
3 provided after the licensee informs the patient about other  
4 recognized treatment options and describes to the patient the  
5 licensee's education, experience, and credentials regarding  
6 the treatment of Lyme disease or other tick-borne disease, the  
7 licensee uses the licensee's own medical judgment based on a  
8 thorough review of all available information and literature  
9 to determine the best course of treatment for the individual  
10 patient, and the treatment will not, in the opinion of the  
11 licensee, result in the direct and proximate death of or  
12 serious bodily injury to the patient.

13 The bill shall become effective upon enactment.