
Wisconsin Legislative Council

AMENDMENT MEMO



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2019 Senate Bill 300

**Senate
Amendment 1**

2019 SENATE BILL 300

2019 Senate Bill 300 creates a tick-borne disease study committee, charged with studying issues involving awareness, prevention, surveillance, diagnosis, reporting, and treatment of Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases. The bill specifies the committee's membership, including representatives of relevant state agencies and stakeholder groups.

The bill requires the committee to report to the Legislature within three and a half years after the bill is enacted. The committee's report must include recommendations for all of the following:

- Policies addressing awareness, prevention, surveillance, diagnosis, reporting, and treatment of Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases.
- Long-term use of antibiotics in the treatment of tick-borne diseases and insurance coverage of long-term use of antibiotics.
- Policies about notifying people about the increased potential of receiving a false negative test in the early stages of a tick-borne disease.

The bill specifies that the committee terminates upon its submission of the report.

SENATE AMENDMENT 1

Senate Amendment 1 modifies the composition of the tick-borne disease study committee and refines recommendations the committee must make to the Legislature. The amendment does all of the following:

- Specifies that the committee members who are health care providers must have a specific focus on the diagnosis and treatment of infectious diseases.
- Increases the number of advocates appointed by the Governor from two to three.
- Adds a new member, to be appointed by the Governor, who is a technical director, or equivalent, of a microbiology laboratory.
- Refines the required recommendations regarding policies for notification about the potential for false negative tests by focusing the recommendations on patient communications.

BILL HISTORY

Senator Cowles and other members introduced 2019 Senate Bill 300 on June 21, 2019. Senators Cowles and Miller introduced Senate Amendment 1 on September 16, 2019. On September 18, 2019, the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy voted to recommend adoption of the amendment and passage of the bill, as amended, both on unanimous votes.

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