

**Assemblymember
Didi Barrett is
fighting for Lyme
patients in New York**

**Sign, governor, and help
Lyme patients**

Poughkeepsie Journal Editorial Board, August 28, 2014

**Barrett Lyme treatment
bill passes Assembly**

Register-Star, May 18, 2014



Assemblymember Didi Barrett stands with members of the Mid-Hudson Lyme Disease Support Group

**Bill holds promise for
Lyme patients**

Poughkeepsie Journal Editorial Board, June 19, 2014

Dear Neighbor,

Here in the Hudson Valley, we all know someone suffering the effects of Lyme and other tick-borne illnesses.

Cases of Lyme, and other devastating tick-borne diseases, have reached crisis level in New York State. Based on the New York State Department of Health's most recent figures, 50,000 people contracted Lyme disease in 2012 alone, with the Hudson Valley at the epicenter. Many cases are not straightforward, do not present classically and are too often initially misdiagnosed. People of all ages have seen their lives turned upside down because of a bite by an infected tick.

This past June, I sponsored a patient protection bill (A.7558-B/S.7854), which passed both houses of the state Legislature unanimously. This legislation would keep decisions about the best course of treatment for Lyme disease between a doctor and a patient by ensuring that doctors who are pursuing safe and effective treatment options can do so without fear of professional censure from members of the medical community who fail to recognize Lyme as a chronic condition.

The governor has the opportunity to position New York

State as a national leader in combating these debilitating diseases by taking the final step of signing this bill into law.

If you or someone you know has suffered a tick-borne illness, please share your story with the governor and ask him to sign this legislation right away.

If I can be of assistance on this or any other issue, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Assemblymember

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**Share your Lyme disease story with the governor
and urge him to sign A.7558-B/S.7854 into law.**



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governor.ny.gov/contact/GovernorContactForm.php