
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 109 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY COLLETT, TARTAGLIONE, HAYWOOD, SCHWANK,
CAPPELLETTI, SANTARSIERO, BREWSTER, BOSCOLA, KEARNEY,
FONTANA, HUGHES, COMMITTA, KANE AND COSTA, MAY 5, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 5, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 1 through 7, 2023, as "Tardive
2 Dyskinesia Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Many individuals with serious, chronic mental
4 illness, such as schizophrenia and other schizoaffective
5 disorders, bipolar disorder or severe depression, or people who
6 suffer with gastrointestinal disorders, including gastroparesis,
7 nausea and vomiting, require treatment with medications that
8 work as dopamine receptor blocking agents (DRBAs), including
9 antipsychotics; and

10 WHEREAS, While ongoing treatment with these medications can
11 be very helpful, and even lifesaving, for many people, it can
12 also lead to tardive dyskinesia (TD); and

13 WHEREAS, TD is a movement disorder that is characterized by
14 random, involuntary and uncontrolled movements of different
15 muscles in the face, trunk and extremities; and

16 WHEREAS, TD can develop months, years or decades after an
17 individual starts taking DRBAs and even after they have

1 discontinued use of those medications; and

2 WHEREAS, Not everyone who takes a DRBA develops TD, but if it
3 develops it is often permanent; and

4 WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 600,000 Americans
5 suffer from TD; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the National Alliance for Mental
7 Illness, one in every four patients receiving long-term
8 treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience TD;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, TD is often unrecognized and patients suffering from
11 the illness are commonly misdiagnosed; and

12 WHEREAS, Regular screening for TD in patients taking DRBAs is
13 recommended by the American Psychiatric Association; and

14 WHEREAS, Clinical research has led to the availability of two
15 treatments for adults with TD by the United States Food and Drug
16 Administration; and

17 WHEREAS, The Senate can raise awareness of TD in the public
18 and medical community; therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of May 1 through
20 7, 2023, as "Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week" in Pennsylvania;
21 and be it further

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage each individual in
23 Pennsylvania and the United States to become better informed
24 about and aware of tardive dyskinesia.