
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 290 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY COLLETT, HAYWOOD, BREWSTER, SCHWANK, CULVER,
FONTANA, KANE, COSTA, CAPPELLETTI, J. WARD AND DILLON,
MAY 17, 2024

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MAY 17, 2024

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the week of May 5 through 11, 2024, 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 antiemetics; and

10 WHEREAS, While ongoing treatment with these medications can
11 be necessary, prolonged use is associated with tardive
12 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, Even mild symptoms of TD can impact people
17 physically, socially and emotionally; and

1 WHEREAS, TD can develop months, years or decades after an
2 individual starts taking DRBAs and even after the individual has
3 discontinued use of those medications; and

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

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

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

12 WHEREAS, Years of difficult and challenging research have
13 resulted in recent scientific breakthroughs with two new
14 treatments for TD approved by the United States Food and Drug
15 Administration; and

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

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

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

22 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the week of May 5 through
23 11, 2024, as "Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week" in
24 Pennsylvania; and be it further

25 RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage anyone experiencing
26 uncontrollable, abnormal and repetitive movements to consult
27 their health care provider regarding their symptoms.