

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.276

Reps. Witwer, Steckloff, Pohutsky, Garza, Shannon, Scott, Breen, Coleman, Tate, Neeley, Sowerby, Bezotte, Haadsma, Morse and Rogers offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare May 1-7, 2022, as Tardive Dyskinesia
2 Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

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

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

1 Whereas, Tardive dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is
2 characterized by random, involuntary, and uncontrolled movements of
3 different muscles in the face, trunk and extremities. In some
4 cases, people may experience movement of the arms, legs, fingers,
5 and toes. In other cases, symptoms may include swaying movements of
6 the trunk or hips which may impact the muscles associated with
7 walking, speech, eating and breathing; and

8 Whereas, Tardive dyskinesia can develop months, years, or
9 decades after a person starts taking DRBAs and even after they have
10 discontinued use of those medications. Not everyone who takes a
11 DRBA develops TD, but if it develops it is often permanent; and

12 Whereas, Common risk factors for tardive dyskinesia include
13 advanced age and alcoholism or other substance abuse disorders.
14 Postmenopausal women and people with a mood disorder are also
15 higher risk of developing tardive dyskinesia; and

16 Whereas, A person is at higher risk for TD after taking DRBAs
17 for three months or longer, but the longer the person is on these
18 medications, the higher the risk of developing tardive dyskinesia;
19 and

20 Whereas, Studies suggest that overall risk of developing
21 tardive dyskinesia is between 10 and 30 percent; and

22 Whereas, It is estimated that over 600,000 Americans suffer
23 from tardive dyskinesia. According to the National Alliance for
24 Mental Illness, one in every four patients receiving long-term
25 treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience tardive
26 dyskinesia; and

27 Whereas, Years of difficult and challenging research have
28 resulted in recent scientific breakthroughs, with two new
29 treatments for tardive dyskinesia approved by the United States

1 Food and Drug Administration; and

2 Whereas, Tardive dyskinesia is often unrecognized and patients
3 suffering from the illness are commonly misdiagnosed. Regular
4 screening for TD in patients taking DRBA medications is recommended
5 by the American Psychiatric Association (APA); and

6 Whereas, Patients suffering from tardive dyskinesia often face
7 negative stigma, which can worsen mental health symptoms and cause
8 embarrassment and withdrawal from society as the disease
9 progresses; and

10 Whereas, Caregivers of patients with tardive dyskinesia face
11 many challenges and are often responsible for the overall care of
12 the TD patient; and

13 Whereas, We can raise awareness of tardive dyskinesia in the
14 public and medical community: now, therefore, be it

15 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
16 this legislative body declare May 1-7, 2022, as Tardive Dyskinesia
17 Awareness Week in the state of Michigan. We encourage each
18 individual in the United States to become better informed about and
19 aware of tardive dyskinesia.