

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.276

Reps. Witwer, Steckloff, Pohutsky, Garza, Shannon, Scott, Breen, Coleman, Tate, Neeley and Sowerby 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

11 Whereas, Tardive dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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