

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 50

BY REPRESENTATIVE DUSTIN MILLER

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Designates May 2-9, 2021, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To designate May 2-9, 2021, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week.

3 WHEREAS, many persons with serious and chronic mental illnesses such as
4 schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and severe depression, or severe gastrointestinal disorders
5 such as gastroparesis, nausea, and vomiting, require treatment with medications that work
6 as dopamine receptor blocking agents, or DRBAs, including antipsychotics; and

7 WHEREAS, while ongoing treatment with these medications can be very helpful,
8 and even lifesaving, for many people, it can also lead to Tardive Dyskinesia, or TD; and

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

12 WHEREAS, TD can develop months, years, or decades after a person starts taking
13 DRBAs and even after they have discontinued use of these medications; and

14 WHEREAS, not everyone who takes a DRBA develops TD, but if it develops, it is
15 often permanent; and

16 WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 500,000 Americans suffer from TD; and

17 WHEREAS, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness, one in every four
18 patients receiving long-term treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience TD;
19 and

1 WHEREAS, years of difficult and challenging research have resulted in recent
2 scientific breakthroughs, with two new treatments for TD approved by the United States
3 Food and Drug Administration; and

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

6 WHEREAS, regular screening for TD in patients taking DRBA medications is
7 recommended by the American Psychiatric Association; and

8 WHEREAS, the Legislature of Louisiana can raise awareness of TD in the public and
9 medical community.

10 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
11 designate the week of May 2-9, 2021, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week and does
12 hereby encourage all citizens of Louisiana to become better informed and aware of Tardive
13 Dyskinesia.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HCR 50 Original

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