First Regular Session Seventy-second General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R19-0909.01 Rebecca Hausmann x2172

SJR19-007

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 19-007

101 CONCERNING DESIGNATION OF THE FIRST FULL WEEK OF MAY AS
102 "TARDIVE DYSKINESIA AWARENESS WEEK".

1 WHEREAS, Many people with serious, chronic mental illness, 2 such as schizophrenia and other schizoaffective disorders, bipolar 3 disorder, or severe depression, require treatment with medications that 4 work as dopamine receptor blocking agents (DRBAs), including 5 antipsychotics; and

- 6 WHEREAS, While ongoing treatment with these medications can
 7 be very helpful, and even lifesaving, for many people it can also lead to
 8 Tardive Dyskinesia (TD); and
- 9 WHEREAS, Many people who have gastrointestinal disorders,
 10 including gastroparesis, nausea, and vomiting, also require treatment with

1 DRBAs; and

- WHEREAS, Treatment of gastrointestinal disorders with DRBAs
 can be very helpful, but for many patients can lead to TD; and
 WHEREAS, TD is a movement disorder that is characterized by
 random, involuntary, and uncontrolled movements of different muscles
 in the face, trunk, and extremities; and
- WHEREAS, In some cases, people with TD experience
 involuntary and uncontrolled movement of the arms, legs, fingers, toes,
 tongue, lips, or jaw; swaying movements of the trunk or hips; or impacts
 to the muscles associated with walking, speech, eating, and breathing; and
- WHEREAS, TD can develop months, years, or decades after a
 person starts taking DRBAs, and even after the person has discontinued
 use of such medications; and
- WHEREAS, Not everyone who takes a DRBA develops TD, butif TD develops it is often permanent; and
- WHEREAS, Common risk factors for TD include advanced age,
 alcoholism, substance abuse disorders, being postmenopausal, and mood
 disorders; and
- WHEREAS, A person is at higher risk for TD after taking DRBAs
 for three months or longer, and the longer a person takes DRBAs, the
 higher the risk of developing TD; and
- WHEREAS, Studies suggest that the overall risk of developing TD
 following prolonged exposure to DRBAs is between 10 and 30 percent;
 and
- WHEREAS, It is estimated that approximately 500,000 individuals
 in the United States suffer from TD; and
- WHEREAS, Years of challenging research have resulted in
 scientific advancements since 2017, with two new treatments for TD
 approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and
- WHEREAS, TD is often unrecognized and patients suffering from
 the illness are commonly misdiagnosed; and

- WHEREAS, Patients taking DRBAs should see their health care
 providers for regular evaluations to ensure that any signs of TD are
 recognized; and
- WHEREAS, Patients with TD often suffer embarrassment due to
 abnormal and involuntary movements, which leads them to withdraw
 from society and isolate themselves as the disease progresses; and
- WHEREAS, The caregivers of patients with TD face many
 challenges and are often responsible for the overall care of the TD
 patient; now, therefore,
- 10 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-second General 11 Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives 12 concurring herein:
- 13 That the first full week of May is proclaimed "Tardive Dyskinesia14 Awareness Week", with the goals of:
- 15 (1) Raising awareness of this potentially debilitating disease;
- 16 (2) Encouraging individuals not afflicted with TD to consider the 17 effects of TD on individuals and society; and
- 18 (3) Encouraging Coloradans to contribute to charities supporting19 TD research and awareness.
- Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
 to the Colorado chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness,
 Mental Health Colorado, the Colorado Governor's office, the Department
 of Health Care Policy and Financing, the Department of Public Health
 and Environment, the Office of Saving People Money on Health Care,
 and the office of the Ombudsman for Behavioral Health Access to Care.