

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**REVISED**

LLS NO. R19-0909.01 Rebecca Hausmann x2172

**SJR19-007**

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**Senate Committees**

**House Committees**

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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".**

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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

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
Final Reading  
April 10, 2019

SENATE  
Final Reading  
April 9, 2019

1 DRBAs; and

2 WHEREAS, Treatment of gastrointestinal disorders with DRBAs  
3 can be very helpful, but for many patients can lead to TD; and

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

7 WHEREAS, In some cases, people with TD experience  
8 involuntary and uncontrolled movement of the arms, legs, fingers, toes,  
9 tongue, lips, or jaw; swaying movements of the trunk or hips; or impacts  
10 to the muscles associated with walking, speech, eating, and breathing; and

11 WHEREAS, TD can develop months, years, or decades after a  
12 person starts taking DRBAs, and even after the person has discontinued  
13 use of such medications; and

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

16 WHEREAS, Common risk factors for TD include advanced age,  
17 alcoholism, substance abuse disorders, being postmenopausal, and mood  
18 disorders; and

19 WHEREAS, A person is at higher risk for TD after taking DRBAs  
20 for three months or longer, and the longer a person takes DRBAs, the  
21 higher the risk of developing TD; and

22 WHEREAS, Studies suggest that the overall risk of developing TD  
23 following prolonged exposure to DRBAs is between 10 and 30 percent;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, It is estimated that approximately 500,000 individuals  
26 in the United States suffer from TD; and

27 WHEREAS, Years of challenging research have resulted in  
28 scientific advancements since 2017, with two new treatments for TD  
29 approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

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

1           WHEREAS, Patients taking DRBAs should see their health care  
2 providers for regular evaluations to ensure that any signs of TD are  
3 recognized; and

4           WHEREAS, Patients with TD often suffer embarrassment due to  
5 abnormal and involuntary movements, which leads them to withdraw  
6 from society and isolate themselves as the disease progresses; and

7           WHEREAS, The caregivers of patients with TD face many  
8 challenges and are often responsible for the overall care of the TD  
9 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 Dyskinesia  
14 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 supporting  
19 TD research and awareness.

20           *Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent  
21 to the Colorado chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness,  
22 Mental Health Colorado, the Colorado Governor's office, the Department  
23 of Health Care Policy and Financing, the Department of Public Health  
24 and Environment, the Office of Saving People Money on Health Care,  
25 and the office of the Ombudsman for Behavioral Health Access to Care.