

# HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 259

Rep. Vaupel offered the following resolution:

1           A resolution to declare May 3-9, 2020, as Tardive Dyskinesia  
2 Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

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



1           Whereas, Treatment of gastrointestinal disorders with DRBAs  
2 can be very helpful, but for many patients can lead to tardive  
3 dyskinesia; and

4           Whereas, Tardive dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is  
5 characterized by random, involuntary, and uncontrolled movements of  
6 different muscles in the face, trunk and extremities. In some  
7 cases, people may experience movement of the arms, legs, fingers,  
8 and toes. In some case, it may affect the tongue, lips and jaw. In  
9 other cases, symptoms may include swaying movements of the trunk or  
10 hips and may impact the muscles associated with walking, speech,  
11 eating and breathing; and

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

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

20           Whereas, A person is at higher risk for TD after taking DRBAs  
21 for three months or longer, but the longer the person is on these  
22 medications, the higher the risk of developing tardive dyskinesia;  
23 and

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

26           Whereas, it is estimated that over 500,000 Americans suffer  
27 from tardive dyskinesia. According to the National Alliance for  
28 Mental Illness, one in every four patients receiving long-term  
29 treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience tardive

1 dyskinesia; and

2       Whereas, Years of difficult and challenging research have  
3 resulted in recent scientific breakthroughs, with two new  
4 treatments for tardive dyskinesia approved by the United States  
5 Food and Drug Administration; and

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

10       Whereas, Patients suffering from tardive dyskinesia often  
11 suffer embarrassment due to abnormal and involuntary movements,  
12 which leads them to withdraw from society and increasingly isolate  
13 themselves as the disease progresses; and

14       Whereas, Caregivers of patients with tardive dyskinesia face  
15 many challenges and are often responsible for the overall care of  
16 the TD patient; and

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

19       Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of  
20 this legislative body declare May 3-9, 2020, as Tardive Dyskinesia  
21 Awareness Week in the state of Michigan. We encourage each  
22 individual in the United States to become better informed about and  
23 aware of tardive dyskinesia.