

BY: M. of A. McDonald

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim
May 5-11, 2024, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week
in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to help increase awareness of serious health conditions that affect the lives of citizens of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 5-11, 2024, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Many people with serious mental health conditions, such as bipolar disorder, major depressive disorders, schizophrenia, and schizoaffective disorder, or gastrointestinal disorders, including gastroparesis, nausea, and vomiting, may be treated with medications that work as dopamine receptor blocking agents (DRBAs), including antipsychotics and antiemetics; and

WHEREAS, While ongoing treatment with these medications can be necessary, prolonged use of the medications is associated with tardive dyskinesia (TD), an involuntary movement disorder that is characterized by uncontrollable, abnormal and repetitive movements of the face, torso, and/or other body parts; and

WHEREAS, Even mild symptoms of TD can impact people physically, socially and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that TD affects approximately 600,000 people in the U.S., and approximately 65% of people with TD have not been diagnosed, making it important to raise awareness about the symptoms and impact of TD because even mild symptoms of TD can have physical, social and emotional consequences; and

WHEREAS, It is important that people taking these medications be monitored for TD; regular screening for TD in these patients is recommended by the American Psychiatric Association (APA); and

WHEREAS, Recognition and treatment of TD can make a positive impact in the lives of many people experiencing psychotic and mood disorders; and

WHEREAS, Clinical research has led to the availability of two treatments for adults with TD by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

WHEREAS, Anyone experiencing symptoms of TD should consult their physician for support; and

WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious health condition, and more must be done to increase and raise awareness of TD among the public and the medical community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 5-11, 2024, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.