

ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 459**

Introduced by Day, 49.

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

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

WHEREAS, Tardive Dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is characterized by random, involuntary, and uncontrolled movements of different muscles in the face, trunk, and extremities; and

WHEREAS, Tardive Dyskinesia can develop months, years, or decades after a person starts taking dopamine receptor blocking agents and even after they have discontinued use of those medications. Not everyone who takes a dopamine receptor blocking agent develops Tardive Dyskinesia, but if it develops it is often permanent; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 600,000 Americans suffer from Tardive Dyskinesia. According to the National Alliance for Mental Illness, one in every four patients receiving long-term treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience Tardive Dyskinesia; and

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

WHEREAS, Tardive Dyskinesia is often unrecognized and patients suffering from the illness are commonly misdiagnosed; and

WHEREAS, regular screening for Tardive Dykinsea in patients taking dopamine receptor blocking agents is recommended by the American Psychiatric Association; and

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Legislature can raise awareness of Tardive Dyskinesia in the public and medical community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, SECOND SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes the week of May 1 through May 8, 2022, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in Nebraska.