

No. R-258. Senate concurrent resolution recognizing the week beginning May 1, 2022 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in Vermont.

(S.C.R.21)

By Senator Lyons,

Whereas, forms of mental illness, including bipolar disorder, depression, and schizophrenia, can be treated with prescribed antipsychotic drugs, and

Whereas, approximately one fourth of the individuals, a number estimated to be between 500,000 to 700,000, who take prescribed antipsychotic drugs on a prolonged basis, experience a disorder known as tardive dyskinesia (TD), which is characterized by uncontrollable, abnormal, and repetitive movements of the face, torso, and other body parts, and the effects of TD are potentially disabling and can result in negative emotional and social consequences, and

Whereas, although altering or halting the taking of antipsychotic medications, as well as initiating U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved treatments, may reverse the condition, there is no guarantee of success, and

Whereas, if there is broader awareness in our State of TD, a larger percentage of Vermonters who are taking prescribed antipsychotic drugs may be persuaded to be screened regularly for TD, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly recognizes the week beginning May 1, 2022 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in Vermont.