

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FIVE

**JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY 4, 2025 TO MAY 10,
2025 AS TARDIVE DYSKINESIA AWARENESS WEEK**

WHEREAS, serious mental illnesses like bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder and schizophrenia often require treatment with antipsychotic medications for effective management, and antipsychotic prescribing rates continue to rise; and

WHEREAS, while prolonged antipsychotic use may be essential for the treatment of certain conditions, it is associated with tardive dyskinesia, or "TD," a condition marked by uncontrollable, abnormal and repetitive movements of the face, torso, limbs or extremities; and

WHEREAS, people at higher risk of TD include those older than 55 years, Black individuals, women, individuals with mood or substance use disorders, intellectual disabilities or central nervous system injuries and those with high cumulative antipsychotic exposure; and

WHEREAS, approximately 60% of the estimated 800,000 adults in the United States living with TD remain undiagnosed, and even mild TD symptoms can be stigmatizing and impair physical, social and emotional well-being, underscoring the urgency of early screening, detection and intervention; and

WHEREAS, the American Psychiatric Association recommends routine TD screening in their clinical guidelines for antipsychotic treatment, and individuals treated with antipsychotics or experiencing abnormal movements should consult their healthcare providers to assess TD risk, receive TD screenings and determine appropriate treatment together; and

WHEREAS, United States Food and Drug Administration-approved treatments for TD can provide options for symptom management and improved quality of life for many individuals living with TD; and

WHEREAS, the Maine Legislature can encourage TD screening education and awareness for health care providers, patients and care partners to help ensure patients prescribed antipsychotics receive care and support that aligns with clinical best practice, including regular TD screenings; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-second Legislature now assembled in the First Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate May 4, 2025 to May 10, 2025 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week; acknowledge the importance of early detection and intervention to improve outcomes for people living with mental health conditions and prescribed antipsychotics; and express our support for efforts to raise awareness about the causes and symptoms of TD and the importance of routine TD screening.