

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD

TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

**JOINT RESOLUTION DESIGNATING MAY 5, 2024 TO MAY 11,
2024 AS TARDIVE DYSKINESIA AWARENESS WEEK**

WHEREAS, many people living with serious mental illnesses, including bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, schizophrenia and schizoaffective disorder, or gastrointestinal disorders such as gastroparesis, upset stomach, nausea and vomiting may be treated with medications that work as dopamine receptor blocking agents, including antipsychotics and antiemetics; and

WHEREAS, while ongoing treatment with these medications can be necessary, prolonged use is associated with tardive dyskinesia, an involuntary movement disorder that is characterized by uncontrollable, abnormal and repetitive movements of the face, torso, limbs and fingers or toes; and

WHEREAS, it is important that people taking these medications be monitored for tardive dyskinesia by a health care provider. Regular screening for tardive dyskinesia is recommended by the American Psychiatric Association; and

WHEREAS, even mild symptoms of tardive dyskinesia can impact people physically, socially and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that tardive dyskinesia affects approximately 600,000 people in the United States, and approximately 65% of people with tardive dyskinesia have not been diagnosed, making it important to raise awareness about the symptoms; and

WHEREAS, clinical research has led to approval of treatments for adults with tardive dyskinesia by the United States Food and Drug Administration, and recognition and treatment of tardive dyskinesia can make a positive impact in the lives of many people experiencing psychotic and mood disorders; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That We, the Members of the One Hundred and Thirty-first Legislature now assembled in the Second Regular Session, on behalf of the people we represent, take this opportunity to designate May 5, 2024 to May 11, 2024 as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week and respectfully encourage anyone experiencing uncontrollable, abnormal and repetitive movements to consult their health care provider regarding their symptoms.