

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

H.C.R. 76  
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Administration  
5/16/2019  
Engrossed

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

Tardive dyskinesia (TD) is a condition characterized by involuntary movements of the face, trunk, or extremities, caused by long-term use of dopamine receptor-blocking agents. A movement disorder, TD is most commonly associated with facial symptoms such as uncontrolled grimacing, abnormal motions of the lips and tongue, and rapid blinking, but may also manifest in other parts of the body. It occurs in patients who have been prescribed neuroleptic medications for schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, other neurological conditions, and gastrointestinal disorders, and it can persist after individuals discontinue use of the drugs.

Patients living with TD frequently suffer from embarrassment due to their involuntary movements, which may create a sense of discomfort and unease in those around them. These struggles often compound the difficulties that individuals with TD already face while being treated for psychiatric and mood disorders, leading them to further isolate themselves from others. The condition can also make it challenging for patients to work and stay active and productive.

TD is estimated to affect at least 500,000 people in the United States, and it is more prevalent among postmenopausal women, patients over the age of 55, and those with a history of alcohol or substance abuse. It is important that patients be diagnosed as early as possible to ensure the best outcome, and at this time, prevention remains the best-established method for combatting the condition.

Awareness among patients, medical professionals, caregivers, and the public can play a crucial role in helping more people to live lives free of TD and the challenges and stigma associated with it, and the observance of TD Awareness Week in May 2019 will assist in promoting much-needed education on this important health issue.

### **RESOLVED**

That the 86th Legislature of the State of Texas designate the first full week of May as TD Awareness Week and encourage all Texans to learn more about the risk factors and signs of tardive dyskinesia.

That, in accordance with the provisions of Section 391.004(d), Government Code, this designation remain in effect until the 10th anniversary of the date this resolution is finally passed by the legislature.