

2025-J299

Senate Resolution No. 299

BY: Senator RIVERA

MEMORIALIZING Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim
May 5-11, 2025, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week
in the State of New York

WHEREAS, It is the custom of this Legislative Body to help increase awareness of serious health conditions that affect the lives of citizens of New York State; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 5-11, 2025, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in the State of New York; and

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 (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 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 U.S. adults

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, FDA-approved treatments for TD can provide options for symptom management and improved quality of life for many individuals living with TD; and

WHEREAS, New York State 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 this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Kathy Hochul to proclaim May 5-11, 2025, as Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York.