

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

TARDIVE DYSKINESIA AWARENESS WEEK MAY 2-9, 2021

WHEREAS, many people with serious, chronic mental illness, such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, severe depression or gastrointestinal disorders, including gastroparesis, nausea and vomiting require treatment with medications that work as dopamine receptor blocking agents (DRBAs), including antipsychotics; and

WHEREAS, while ongoing treatment with these medications can be very helpful, and even lifesaving, for many people, it can also lead to Tardive Dyskinesia (TD); and

WHEREAS, Tardive Dyskinesia is a movement disorder that is characterized by random, involuntary and uncontrolled movements of different muscles in the face, trunk and extremities; and

WHEREAS, Tardive Dyskinesia can develop months, years or decades after a person starts taking DRBAs and even after they have discontinued use of those medications; and not everyone who takes a DRBA develops TD, but if it develops it is often permanent; and

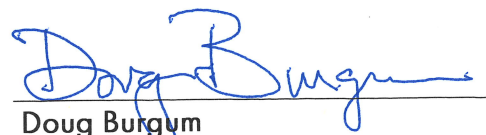
WHEREAS, it is estimated that over 500,000 Americans suffer from Tardive Dyskinesia; and according to the National Alliance for Mental Illness, one in every four patients receiving long-term treatment with an antipsychotic medication will experience Tardive Dyskinesia; and

WHEREAS, years of difficult and challenging research have resulted in recent scientific breakthroughs, with two new treatments for Tardive Dyskinesia approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

WHEREAS, Tardive Dyskinesia is often unrecognized, and patients suffering from the illness are commonly misdiagnosed; and regular screening for TD in patients taking DRBA medications is recommended by the American Psychiatric Association.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 2-9, 2021, TARDIVE DYSKINESIA AWARENESS WEEK in the State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Alvin A. Jaeger
SECRETARY OF STATE