

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2022-4653, by Representatives Thai, Pollet, Wicks, Orwall, Morgan, Fey, Walen, and Callan

1 WHEREAS, Pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders  
2 associated with streptococcal infection (PANDAS) and pediatric acute-  
3 onset neuropsychiatric syndromes (PANS) involve a misdirected  
4 autoimmune process that affects or weakens the blood-brain barrier in  
5 children; and

6 WHEREAS, Children afflicted with PANDAS or PANS display sudden,  
7 dramatic changes in personality manifesting as obsessive compulsive  
8 disorder (OCD), together with accompanying symptoms following a  
9 strep, bacterial, or viral infection; and

10 WHEREAS, Accompanying symptoms may include tics, intense fear or  
11 anxiety, depression, behavioral regression, deterioration in school  
12 performance, sensory sensitivities, severely restricted food intake,  
13 and more; and

14 WHEREAS, It is estimated that at least one in 200 children in the  
15 United States are affected by PANDAS/PANS; and

16 WHEREAS, Children with PANDAS/PANS can often go undiagnosed,  
17 misdiagnosed, or undertreated. PANDAS/PANS is likely as common as  
18 pediatric cancer and pediatric diabetes and can seriously affect  
19 health outcomes in a child's life; and

20 WHEREAS, Established standards of care for treatment of PANDAS/  
21 PANS include antibiotics, steroids, intravenous immunoglobulin,  
22 plasmapheresis, cognitive behavioral therapy, and anti-inflammatory

1 medications and are used based on the needs of the child and the  
2 severity of an individual case; and

3 WHEREAS, Greater public awareness of this health issue is  
4 imperative to improve timely diagnosis and access to treatment so  
5 that health outcomes for affected children may be improved;

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives  
7 recognize and honor the patients and families affected by PANDAS/PANS  
8 and the practitioners who assist them.

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