

Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase awareness of the serious illnesses PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections) and PANS (Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndromes); and

WHEREAS, a diagnoses of PANDAS or PANs means a child has a sudden, dramatic change in personality displayed as Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) together with accompanying symptoms following a strep, bacterial or viral infection. The OCD can display as intense fear or anxiety. Accompanying symptoms may include tics, anxiety, depression, behavioral regression, deterioration in school performance, sensory sensitivities, severely restricted food intake and more; and

WHEREAS, researchers have begun to substantiate that this syndrome involves a misdirected autoimmune process that affects or weakens the Blood Brain Barrier. The inflammatory process irritates a region of the brain that manages a variety of functions such as movement, cognitive perception, habit, executive “logic-based” thinking, emotions, and the endocrine system; and

WHEREAS, a conservative estimate of prevalence is 162,000 in the U.S. alone. PANDAS/PANS is likely as common as pediatric cancer and pediatric diabetes; and

WHEREAS, PANDAS/PANS is often misdiagnosed and undertreated. Treatment varies by the needs of the child, but may include antibiotics, steroids, IVIG (intravenous immunoglobulin), plasmapheresis, cognitive behavioral therapy, and anti-inflammatory medications; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that there be greater public awareness of this serious health issue, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, state and national levels.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, John R. Kasich and Mary Taylor, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize

PANDAS/PANS AWARENESS DAY

On this 9th day of October, 2014;

John R. Kasich
Governor

Mary Taylor
Lieutenant Governor

