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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) and pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorder associated with streptococcal infection (PANDAS) create the sudden onset of obsessive-compulsive disorder in children, causing previously healthy and emotionally adjusted children to experience severe anxiety and emotional disturbances; and

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WHEREAS, Children with PANS and PANDAS tend to manifest some of the following symptoms: tics or other abnormal movements, severe separation anxiety, generalized anxiety, irritability, aggression, personality changes, ADHD, marked deterioration in learning and school performance, and developmental regression, including deterioration in handwriting; and

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WHEREAS, PANS is broader than PANDAS as it includes not only disorders associated with a preceding infection, such as Mycoplasma Pneumoniae, Mono, Lyme, viruses, and more, but also acute onset non-infectious triggers, such as environmental factors and metabolic dysfunction; treatment plans similar to those for PANDAS should be attempted; and

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WHEREAS, Children with PANS and PANDAS may experience moderate to dramatic improvement with antibiotics, steroids,

1 intravenous immunoglobulin treatment, or plasmapheresis; and

2 WHEREAS, Researchers at the National Institute of Mental
3 Health, along with 13 Centers for Excellence throughout the
4 country, are currently engaged in extensive research to
5 elucidate the causes and develop further effective treatment
6 options for PANS and PANDAS; and

7 WHEREAS, Researchers at Moleculera Labs at the University
8 of Oklahoma have developed PANS and PANDAS blood testing
9 procedures; and

10 WHEREAS, The expert members of the physicians specialty
11 society, the PANDAS Physicians Network, have developed and
12 published standard treatment methods; and

13 WHEREAS, The organization PANDAS/PANS Advocacy and Support
14 strives to build public awareness, educate medical providers
15 about the disorder and treatments for same, build support for
16 legislation involving the disorder, and provide support and
17 resources for families affected by PANDAS/PANS, in accordance
18 with section 501(c) (3); and

19 WHEREAS, The actual number of children suffering from PANS
20 and PANDAS has been estimated to be approximately one out of
21 every 200 children in the United States; and

1 WHEREAS, It is imperative that there be greater public
2 awareness of this serious health issue; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDREDTH GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate the date
5 of October 9 of 2017 and 2018 as PANS and PANDAS Awareness Day
6 in the State of Illinois; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
8 presented to Wendy Nawara, President of PANDAS/PANS Advocacy
9 and Support of Illinois.