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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE BILL

No. 1352 Session of  
2021

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INTRODUCED BY JOZWIAK, R. MACKENZIE, SANCHEZ, BROOKS, HENNESSEY,  
THOMAS AND NEILSON, MAY 7, 2021

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, MAY 7, 2021

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AN ACT

1 Establishing the Advisory Council on PANDAS and PANS; and  
2 providing for the duties of the Advisory Council on PANDAS  
3 and PANS.

4 TABLE OF CONTENTS

5 Chapter 1. Preliminary Provisions

6 Section 101. Short title.

7 Chapter 2. Advisory Council on PANDAS and PANS

8 Section 201. Definitions.

9 Section 202. Establishment of advisory council.

10 Section 203. Compensation of advisory council members.

11 Section 204. Meetings.

12 Section 205. Quorum.

13 Section 206. Duties of advisory council.

14 Chapter 20. Miscellaneous Provisions

15 Section 2001. Effective date.

16 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
17 hereby enacts as follows:

18 CHAPTER 1

PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

Section 101. Short title.

This act shall be known and may be cited as the Advisory Council on PANDAS and PANS Act.

CHAPTER 2

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PANDAS and PANS

Section 201. Definitions.

The following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall have the meanings given to them in this section unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Advisory council." The Advisory Council on PANDAS and PANS.

"Department." The Department of Health of the Commonwealth.

"PANDAS." Pediatric Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections.

"PANS." Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome.

"Secretary." The Secretary of Health of the Commonwealth.

Section 202. Establishment of advisory council.

(a) Establishment.--The secretary shall establish the Advisory Council on PANDAS and PANS for the purpose of advising the secretary on PANDAS and PANS, including on matters relating to the research, diagnosis, treatment and education of PANDAS and PANS.

(b) Appointed members.--The secretary shall appoint the following members to the advisory council:

(1) A licensed immunologist who practices in this Commonwealth and has experience treating individuals with PANDAS and PANS and the use of intravenous immunoglobulin.

(2) A licensed health care practitioner who practices in this Commonwealth and has expertise in treating individuals with PANDAS, PANS, autism spectrum disorder, obsessive-

1 compulsive disorder and other neurological disorders.

2 (3) A representative of a Statewide advocacy  
3 organization for individuals with PANDAS and PANS from within  
4 this Commonwealth.

5 (4) A licensed osteopathic physician who practices in  
6 this Commonwealth and who has experience treating individuals  
7 with PANDAS and PANS.

8 (5) A medical researcher with experience conducting  
9 research concerning PANDAS, PANS, autism spectrum disorder,  
10 obsessive-compulsive disorder and other neurological  
11 disorders.

12 (6) A certified dietitian or nutritionist who practices  
13 in this Commonwealth and provides services to children with  
14 PANDAS, PANS, autism spectrum disorder, obsessive-compulsive  
15 disorder and other neurological disorders.

16 (7) A representative of a professional organization in  
17 this Commonwealth for school psychologists who is a school  
18 psychologist.

19 (8) A child psychiatrist who has experience treating  
20 individuals with PANDAS, PANS, autism spectrum disorder,  
21 obsessive-compulsive disorder and other neurological  
22 disorders.

23 (9) A representative of a professional organization in  
24 this Commonwealth for school nurses who is a school nurse.

25 (10) A pediatrician who has experience treating  
26 individuals with PANDAS, PANS, autism spectrum disorder,  
27 obsessive-compulsive disorder and other neurological  
28 disorders.

29 (11) A representative of an organization focused on  
30 autism.

1 (12) A parent with a child who has been diagnosed with  
2 PANDAS or PANS.

3 (13) A licensed social worker whose practice focuses on  
4 children in this Commonwealth.

5 (b.1) Additional members.--The following shall be members of  
6 the advisory committee:

7 (1) A representative of the Bureau of Special Education  
8 of the Department of Education.

9 (2) The chair and minority chair of the Health and Human  
10 Services Committee of the Senate or their designees.

11 (3) The chair and minority chair of the Health Committee  
12 of the House of Representatives or their designees.

13 (4) The secretary or the secretary's designee, who shall  
14 be a nonvoting member.

15 (c) General Assembly.--A member of the advisory committee  
16 under subsection (b) (1) through (13) may be a member of the  
17 General Assembly.

18 (c.1) Doctors.--The physician members of the council shall  
19 include at least one medical doctor and at least one osteopathic  
20 doctor.

21 (d) Deadline.--All appointments to the advisory council  
22 shall be made no later than 30 days after the effective date of  
23 this act.

24 Section 203. Compensation of advisory council members.

25 A member of the advisory council shall receive no  
26 compensation except for reimbursement for necessary expenses  
27 incurred in performing the member's duties.

28 Section 204. Meetings.

29 The secretary shall call the first meeting of the advisory  
30 council no later than 60 days after the effective date of this

1 act. The advisory council shall meet upon the call of the chair  
2 or upon the request of a majority of the advisory council  
3 members.

4 Section 205. Quorum.

5 A majority of the advisory council members shall constitute a  
6 quorum. A majority vote of a quorum shall be required for any  
7 official action of the advisory council.

8 Section 206. Duties of advisory council.

9 The advisory council shall have the following duties:

10 (1) The advisory council shall elect the chair of the  
11 advisory council.

12 (2) No later than January 1, 2022, and annually  
13 thereafter, the advisory council shall submit a report to the  
14 Health and Human Services Committee of the Senate and the  
15 Health Committee of the House of Representatives. The report  
16 shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations on the  
17 following matters:

18 (i) Practice guidelines for the diagnosis and  
19 treatment of PANDAS and PANS.

20 (ii) Mechanisms to increase clinical awareness and  
21 education of PANDAS and PANS among health care  
22 practitioners, including pediatricians, school-based  
23 health centers and providers of mental health services.

24 (iii) Outreach programs for educators and parents to  
25 increase awareness of PANDAS and PANS.

26 (iv) The development of a network of volunteer  
27 experts on the diagnosis and treatment of PANDAS and PANS  
28 to assist in education and outreach.

29 CHAPTER 20

30 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1 Section 2001. Effective date.

2 This act shall take effect in 60 days.