



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: A diagnosis of Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS), Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndromes (PANS), or Pediatric Infection-triggered Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders (PITAND) 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; and

WHEREAS: Research substantiates 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 functions such as movement, cognitive perception, habit, executive “logic-based” thinking, emotions, and the endocrine system; and

WHEREAS: The disorder is often misdiagnosed and under treated. Treatment varies by the needs of the child but may include antibiotics, steroids, anti-obsessional medications, intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG), Plasmapheresis, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and anti-inflammatory medications; and

WHEREAS: PANDAS Network is dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of children with the disorder and is also a conduit for researchers to navigate collaborations and for the medical community to find information; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, October 9, 2015, as:

PANDAS/PANS AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 26th day of August.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE