



ARIZONA STATE SENATE

Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.R. 1007

PANDAS; PITAND; PANS; awareness day

Purpose

Proclaims October 9 of each year as PANS, PANDAS and PITAND Awareness Day in this state.

Background

According to the National Institute of Mental Health's (NIMH) website, PANDAS is an abbreviation for Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections. The term is used to describe a subset of children and adolescents who have Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) or tic disorders and have an unusually abrupt onset of symptoms, accompanied by a variety of comparably severe and acute neuropsychiatric symptoms. This abrupt onset is generally preceded by a strep throat infection.

PANS is a term used to describe the larger class of acute-onset OCD cases. PANS stands for Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome and includes all cases of abrupt onset OCD, not just those associated with streptococcal infections (NIMH).

The NIMH investigators discovered that OCD, tics, and other symptoms usually occurred in the aftermath of a strong stimulant to the immune system, such as a viral infection or bacterial infection. The first cases were given the name PITANDS for Pediatric Infection Triggered Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders. The first reported cases of PITANDS followed infections with influenza, varicella (chickenpox), and streptococcal bacteria (strep throat and scarlet fever). Later cases were reported to occur in association with Lyme disease and mycoplasma infections (NIMH).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the General Fund associated with this measure.

Provisions

1. States that the members of the Senate declare October 9 of each year as PANS, PANDAS and PITAND Awareness Day in Arizona.
2. Directs the Secretary of State to transmit copies of this resolution to the Governor, the Arizona Department of Health Services, Dr. Susan Swedo at the National Institute of Mental Health, Dr. Madeleine Cunningham at Moleculera Labs at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, and the website administrator of PANDASNetwork.org.

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Prepared by Senate Research

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