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1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 237

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

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

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

21 WHEREAS, Children with PANS and PANDAS may experience  
22 moderate to dramatic improvement with antibiotics, intravenous

1 immunoglobulin treatment, or plasmapheresis; and

2 WHEREAS, Researchers at the National Institute of Mental  
3 Health are currently engaged in extensive research and testing  
4 on how to effectively treat PANS and PANDAS; and

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

8 WHEREAS, The organization PANDAS/PANS Advocacy and Support  
9 strives to build public awareness, educate medical providers  
10 about the disorder and treatments for same, build support for  
11 legislation involving the disorder, and provide support and  
12 resources for families affected by PANDAS/PANS, in accordance  
13 with Section 501(c)(3); and

14 WHEREAS, The actual number of children suffering from PANS  
15 and PANDAS has been estimated to be approximately one out of  
16 every 50 children in the United States; and

17 WHEREAS, PANS and PANDAS are likely to be as common as  
18 pediatric cancer and pediatric diabetes; and

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

1           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL  
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we designate the date  
3 of October 9 of 2015 and 2016 as PANS and PANDAS Awareness Day  
4 in the State of Illinois; and be it further

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