
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1763 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY JOZWIAK, R. MACKENZIE, GILLEN, STEELE AND GAYDOS,
OCTOBER 17, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, OCTOBER 17, 2023

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.

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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.

"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-compulsive disorder and other neurological disorders.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 (12) A parent with a child who has been diagnosed with

1 PANDAS or PANS.

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

4 (c) Additional members.--The following shall be members of
5 the advisory committee:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 Section 203. Compensation of advisory council members.

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

27 Section 204. Meetings.

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

1 chair or upon the request of a majority of the advisory council
2 members.

3 Section 205. Quorum.

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

7 Section 206. Duties of advisory council.

8 The advisory council shall have the following duties:

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

11 (2) No later than January 1, 2024, and annually
12 thereafter, the advisory council shall submit a report to the
13 Health and Human Services Committee of the Senate and the
14 Health Committee of the House of Representatives. The report
15 shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations on the
16 following matters:

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

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

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

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

28 CHAPTER 20

29 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

30 Section 2001. Effective date.

1 This act shall take effect in 60 days.