
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 295 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY JOZWIAK, EMRICK, HILL-EVANS, BARRAR, PICKETT,
RADER, CALTAGIRONE, READSHAW, SCHLOSSBERG, MACKENZIE, MURT,
DAY, SAYLOR, SIMMONS, GILLEN, WARREN AND RYAN,
JANUARY 30, 2019

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, JANUARY 30, 2019

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:

1 CHAPTER 1

2 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS

3 Section 101. Short title.

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

6 CHAPTER 2

7 ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PANDAS and PANS

8 Section 201. Definitions.

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

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

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

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

16 "PANS." Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome.

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

18 Section 202. Establishment of advisory council.

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

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

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

29 (2) A licensed health care practitioner who practices in
30 this Commonwealth and has expertise in treating individuals

1 with PANDAS, PANS, autism spectrum disorder, obsessive-
2 compulsive disorder and other neurological disorders.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

30 (11) A representative of an organization focused on

1 autism.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 Section 203. Compensation of advisory council members.

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

29 Section 204. Meetings.

30 The secretary shall call the first meeting of the advisory

1 council no later than 60 days after the effective date of this
2 act. The advisory council shall meet upon the call of the chair
3 or upon the request of a majority of the advisory council
4 members.

5 Section 205. Quorum.

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

9 Section 206. Duties of advisory council.

10 The advisory council shall have the following duties:

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

13 (2) No later than January 1, 2020, and annually
14 thereafter, the advisory council shall submit a report to the
15 Health and Human Services Committee of the Senate and the
16 Health Committee of the House of Representatives. The report
17 shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations on the
18 following matters:

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

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

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

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

30 CHAPTER 20

MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

1

2 Section 2001. Effective date.

3 This act shall take effect in 60 days.