

WHEREAS; pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) and pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS) are severe inflammatory brain conditions; and

WHEREAS; according to the Neuroimmune Foundation, PANS is a clinical diagnosis requiring obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) and/or restrictive eating as well as two or more of the following symptoms, including anxiety, emotional lability, depression, irritability, aggression, oppositional behavior, behavioral regression, deterioration in handwriting, loss of math skills, sensory abnormalities, sleep disturbances, enuresis, and urinary frequency—which can cause severe physical and emotional distress; and

WHEREAS; PANDAS is a subset of PANS, and guidelines for diagnosing PANDAS include the presence of OCD and/or tics, symptoms begin between age three and puberty, acute-onset and episodic (relapsing-remitting) course, association with Group A Streptococcal infection, and association with neurological abnormalities; and

WHEREAS; although treatment can be as simple as generic antibiotics or over-the-counter anti-inflammatories, a lack of awareness often leads to the misdiagnosis or failure to diagnose children suffering from PANS and PANDAS, which can have serious mental health consequences for them and their families; and

WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the affected individuals, families, dedicated advocates, and organizations across the state in working towards increased awareness, quicker and more accurate diagnoses, and greater support for all those affected by PANS and PANDAS across the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim October 9 2023 as

PANS/PANDAS AWARENESS DAY

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state’s residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 6th day of October 2023.

TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:

SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State