



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### PANDAS/PANS/BGE AWARENESS DAY

**WHEREAS:** PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections), PANS (Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndromes), and BGE (Basal Ganglia Encephalitis) are serious illnesses that affect the lives of citizens of Georgia such as; and

**WHEREAS:** A diagnosis of PANDAS, PANS, or BGE means a child has a sudden, dramatic change in personality displayed as obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) together with accompanying symptoms following a strep, bacterial, or viral infection. The OCD can display as intense fear or anxiety. Accompanying symptoms may include tics, anxiety, depression, behavioral regression, deterioration in school performance, sensory sensitivities, severely restricted food intake; and

**WHEREAS:** PANDAS/PANS/BGE is often misdiagnosed and under-treated. Treatment varies by the needs of the child, but may include antibiotics, steroids, IVIG (intravenous immunoglobulin), Plasmapheresis, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and anti-inflammatory medications; and

**WHEREAS:** PANDASnetwork.org is dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of PANDAS/PANS/BGE, serving as a conduit for researchers to navigate collaborations and the medical community to find information. On PANDAS/PANS/BGE Awareness Day, the State of Georgia seeks to promote increased awareness of this health issue; now

**THEREFORE:** I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2021 as PANDAS/PANS/BGE AWARENESS DAY in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.



*B. Kemp*

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Manton Kipertovich*

CHIEF OF STAFF