

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021

H.B. 340  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30105-MG-84

Short Title: Advisory Council on PANS & PANDAS. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Bradford and Carney (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN ADVISORY COUNCIL ON PEDIATRIC ACUTE-ONSET  
3 NEUROPSYCHIATRIC SYNDROME (PANS) AND PEDIATRIC AUTOIMMUNE  
4 NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDER ASSOCIATED WITH STREPTOCOCCAL  
5 INFECTIONS (PANDAS).

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Article 1B of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is amended by  
8 adding a new section to read:

9 **"§ 130A-33.52. Advisory Council on Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome**  
10 **(PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with**  
11 **Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS); membership; terms; compensation;**  
12 **meetings; quorum.**

13 (a) There is established the Advisory Council on Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric  
14 Syndrome (PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with  
15 Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) within the Department to advise the Governor, the  
16 Secretary, and the General Assembly on research, diagnosis, treatment, and education relating to  
17 pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANS) and its subset, pediatric autoimmune  
18 neuropsychiatric disorder associated with streptococcal infections (PANDAS).

19 (b) Advisory Council Membership.

20 (1) The Secretary shall appoint members to the advisory council as follows,  
21 unless otherwise provided:

22 a. A representative of a nonprofit pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric  
23 syndrome advocacy organization.

24 b. A representative of a professional organization for school  
25 psychologists or school social workers organized under the laws of this  
26 State.

27 c. An osteopathic professional with experience treating persons with  
28 pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome.

29 d. An immunologist licensed and practicing in this State who has  
30 experience treating persons with pediatric acute-onset  
31 neuropsychiatric syndrome and the use of intravenous  
32 immunoglobulin.

33 e. A neurologist licensed and practicing in this State who has experience  
34 treating persons with pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric  
35 syndrome.



- 1            f.     A pediatrician licensed and practicing in this State who has experience  
2            treating persons with pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric  
3            syndrome.
- 4            g.     A child psychiatrist licensed and practicing in this State who has  
5            experience treating persons with pediatric acute-onset  
6            neuropsychiatric syndrome.
- 7            h.     An employee of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human  
8            Services.
- 9            i.     A representative of an organization focused on autism.
- 10          j.     A nutrition expert with experience treating persons with pediatric  
11          acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome.
- 12          k.     A parent with a child who has been diagnosed with pediatric  
13          acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome.
- 14          l.     A representative of the State Board of Education with experience in  
15          special education.
- 16          m.     One member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the  
17          Speaker of the House.
- 18          n.     One member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate.
- 19          (2)    The chairs of the Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human  
20          Services, or the chairs' designees, shall serve on the advisory council. A  
21          member of the advisory council who is designated by the chairs of the Joint  
22          Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services may be a  
23          member of the General Assembly.
- 24          (3)    The Secretary, or the Secretary's designee, shall serve as an ex officio,  
25          nonvoting member of the advisory council.
- 26          (c)    Members appointed under subsection (b) of this section shall serve for a term of three  
27          years, and no member shall serve more than two consecutive terms.
- 28          (d)    Members of the advisory council shall receive per diem and necessary travel and  
29          subsistence expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 138-5 or G.S. 138-6 or travel and  
30          subsistence expenses in accordance with the provisions of G.S. 120-3.1, as applicable.
- 31          (e)    All administrative support and other services required by the advisory council shall  
32          be provided by the Department. Professional support shall be provided by the University of North  
33          Carolina School of Medicine.
- 34          (f)    The Secretary shall select the chair of the advisory council from among the members  
35          of the council.
- 36          (g)    The chair shall convene the first meeting of the advisory council no later than October  
37          1, 2020. A majority of the council members shall constitute a quorum. A majority vote of a  
38          quorum shall be required for any official action of the advisory council. Following the first  
39          meeting, the advisory council shall meet upon the call of the chair or upon the request of a  
40          majority of council members.
- 41          (h)    All vacancies shall be filled by the original appointing officer of the seat that has  
42          become vacant within 30 days of the vacancy."
- 43          **SECTION 2.** Article 1B of Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is amended by  
44          adding a new section to read:
- 45          **"§ 130A-33.53. Advisory Council on Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome**  
46          **(PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with**  
47          **Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS); powers and duties; reports.**
- 48          The advisory council shall have the following powers and duties:
- 49          (1)    Advise on coordinating statewide efforts for the study of pediatric acute-onset  
50          neuropsychiatric syndrome and its subset, pediatric autoimmune

- 1                    neuropsychiatric disorder associated with streptococcal infections, within the
- 2                    State.
- 3            (2)    File a report regarding pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome and
- 4                    its subset, pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorder associated with
- 5                    streptococcal infections, to the Secretary, the Governor, and the Joint
- 6                    Legislative Oversight Committee on Health and Human Services on behalf of
- 7                    the General Assembly not later than January 1, 2021, and annually thereafter,
- 8                    on all of the following:
- 9                    a.        The activities of the advisory council and its findings and
- 10                    recommendations.
- 11                    b.        Up-to-date practice guidelines for diagnosis and treatment.
- 12                    c.        Mechanisms to increase clinical awareness and education among
- 13                    physicians, including pediatricians, school-based health centers, and
- 14                    providers of mental health services.
- 15                    d.        Outreach to educators and parents to increase awareness.
- 16                    e.        Development of a volunteer expert network to assist in education and
- 17                    outreach."
- 18            **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2021.