



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, it is important to increase awareness of serious illnesses that affect the lives of citizens of Tennessee such as PANDAS (Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections), PANS (Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndromes), and BGE (Basal Ganglia Encephalitis); and

**WHEREAS**, a diagnosis of PANDAS, PANS, or BGE means a child has a sudden, dramatic onset of neuropsychiatric symptoms, such as Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) symptoms. Accompanying symptoms may include tics, anxiety, depression, behavioral regression, deterioration in school performance, sensory abnormalities, severely restricted food intake, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, most cases of PANS are thought to result from an abnormal autoimmune or inflammatory response in the brain following an infection. When the patient has had a recent streptococcal infection, he or she is diagnosed with PANDAS, a subtype of PANS; and

**WHEREAS**, PANDAS/PANS/BGE is rare and more data is needed to determine the prevalence, these conditions can seriously affect a child's health; and

**WHEREAS**, PANDAS/PANS/BGE may be underdiagnosed and treatment depends on the type and severity of symptoms and cause (if known) but may include antibiotics, steroids, IVIG (intravenous immunoglobulin), Plasmapheresis, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and anti-inflammatory medications; and

**WHEREAS**, PANDASnetwork.org is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of PANDAS/PANS/BGE, PANDAS Network is also a conduit for collaborative research and a source of information for the medical community; and

**NOW THEREFORE, I, Bill Lee**, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim October 9, 2021 as PANDAS/PANS/BGE Awareness Day

*PANDAS/PANS/BGE Awareness Day*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this twentieth day of October, 2021.

*Bill Lee*

Governor

*Lee H. West*

Secretary of State