

**REPRESENTATIVE  
JULIE COULOMBE**

# **HB 292**

**INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PEDIATRIC AUTOIMMUNE  
NEUROPSYCHIATRIC DISORDERS**

# WHAT ARE PANDAS/PANS ?

## PANDAS

- Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections
- Occurs when a strep throat triggers a misdirected immune response

## PANS

- Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome
- Misdirected immune response from *infectious triggers, environmental factors, and other possible triggers*

## BOTH

- Result in inflammation in a child's brain
- Child begins showing life altering symptoms rapidly
- OCD, anxiety, severe restrictive eating, tics, personality changes, decline in math and handwriting skills, sensory sensitives, and more

# TREATMENT NOT COVERED

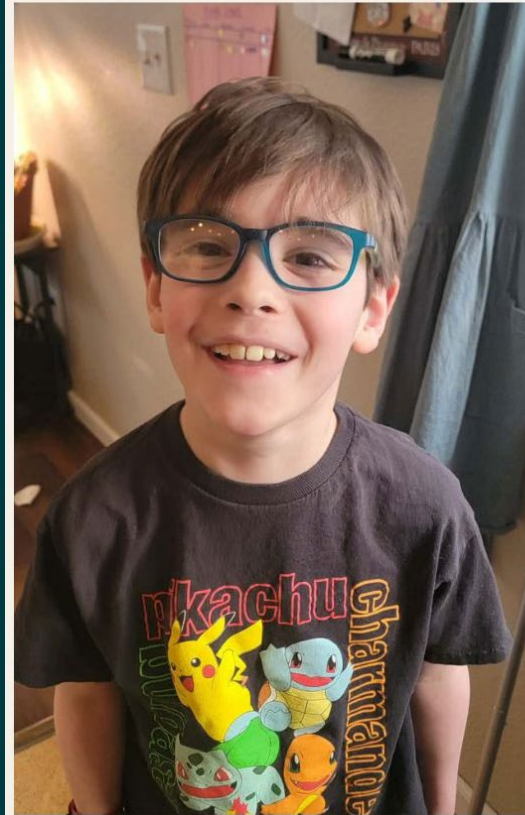
## INSURANCE: PEDIATRIC NEUROPSYCH DISORDERS

- 1 in 200 children in the U.S. alone are affected by these disorders, an estimated 870 children in Alaska
- Lack of awareness, treatment guidelines first published in 2015 & 2017
- Very recent research from Yale and Stanford confirm the presence of a biomarker in these children
- PANS/PANDAS are treatable, early treatment = better outcome

## FINN'S BILL HB 292



SO ALL KIDS WITH PANDAS/PANS  
CAN HAVE ACCESS TO LIFE SAVING  
TREATMENT



Finn, Age 10 of Anchorage, AK

Alaska's House Bill 292 requires insurance companies to cover the medical treatments needed for children with PANDAS/PANS, ensuring reliable access to care.

PANDAS/PANS are inflammatory brain disorders that cause the sudden onset of psychiatric symptoms, disordered eating, or tics—leaving families asking, “What happened to my child?”

These conditions require prompt medical evaluation and treatment, as early intervention leads to better outcomes.

House Bill 292 requires coverage so no Alaskan child is denied timely, medically necessary treatment for PANDAS/PANS.

NWPPN



# **HB 292 PROPOSES** **INSURANCE** **COVERAGE.**

**When treatment is not covered by insurance, the cost for a family to pay privately is exorbitant with one treatment costing tens of thousands of dollars on the low end.**

QUESTIONS?