

Dear Chair **(Freiman OR Lagana)**,

I am a New Jersey resident writing you today on behalf of New Jersey children and young adults suffering from Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS) and Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorders Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS). PANS and PANDAS are neuroimmune disorders that produce devastating, life-altering symptoms, which may include severe OCD, anxiety, tics, joint pain, gastrointestinal distress, extreme sleep disturbance, disordered eating, aggression, irritability, cognitive decline and more as a result of immune system dysfunction following common infections such as strep and the flu.

Currently, **(use either Assembly Bill 5325 – Letter to Chair Freiman OR Senate Bill 4444 – for Chair Lagana)**, which requires insurance coverage for the treatment of PANS and PANDAS, is pending in the **(use either Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee – for Chair Freiman OR Senate Commerce Committee – for Senator Lagana)**. I respectfully request that the committee consider and favorably report **(use either A5325 – for Chair Freiman OR S4444 –for Chair Lagana)** out of the committee so that the bill can move forward in the legislative process. The passage of this bill would alleviate economic burdens on families who frequently pay out of pocket medical expenses despite having insurance or are otherwise forced to forgo treatment, thereby resulting in further decline of a loved one. In doing so, New Jersey would join policymakers in 15 states to date that have passed similar legislation.

I, along with the many New Jersey families impacted by PANS and PANDAS, would be very grateful for your support in helping to pass this important measure. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

(Name)

(Insert Town, NJ)