

Children's Naturopathic Centre P.C.

Sarah McAllister Ulbricht, ND

February 2nd, 2021

RE: Bill number - HB 2390

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to urge you to pass house bill 2390. As a local provider who treats numerous children with Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Syndrome, I see the devastating effects that this syndrome plays on the lives of these children and their families. Children have sudden onset of symptoms that are debilitating to their normal daily functions, often impacting their ability to attend school, socialize with their peers or perform simple daily tasks without the aid of others. Furthermore, there are profound emotional and economic impacts on their families. Parents often must miss significant periods of work, children may be hospitalized due to the severity of their symptoms, and because insurance does not currently cover specific therapies proven effective for children with PANS, parents are having to choose between their ability to pay for therapies and the health of their child.

PANS is a form of autoimmune encephalopathy and it is imperative that effective treatments be implemented quickly to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children afflicted. I have seen firsthand the differences in treatment outcomes in the children who obtain appropriate therapies from those who cannot afford to do so. When insurance does not cover these therapies, children and families suffer. Furthermore, the longer children go without proper therapy, the more likely they are to be left with long-term/permanent symptoms. We have children within our state who are in crises simply because their insurance will not cover effective treatments. Please help put a stop to this and pass HB 2390.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sarah McAllister

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