

Chair/ Representative Prusak and Members of the Healthcare Committee,

I'm writing today in support of House Bill 2390. My only child was affected by PANDAS at the age of 8. It turned our lives upside down. To watch your young child, suffer because of the acute onset of debilitating PANDAS symptoms, is beyond any imaginable nightmare.

Oregon has the opportunity to ensure the sickest children with these disorders have access to life-saving care that is being withheld by Oregon insurers who care more about their bottom line than providing medically necessary care to children suffering from brain inflammation. Oregon should stand up to insurers doing business in our state to ensure coverage of these treatments is not in question. Treatment decisions on what is best for a patient, especially a young child with brain inflammation, should be up to their treating medical provider and not subject to insurance bureaucracy.

The liability of not acting on behalf of these children when Oregon has been made clearly aware of the risks of not treating these children, is negligible. There is no other option than to ensure children in our state have equal access to medically necessary treatment that could end their suffering and restore their childhood.

Please move House Bill 2390 forward by voting yes in support of this critical bill.

Sincerely,
Kane Lemley
SW Portland 97219