



Testimony on House Bill 2390  
February 23, 2021  
House Committee on Health Care  
Deborah Riddick, JD RN

Good afternoon Chair Prusak, Vice Chairs Salinas and Hayden, and members of the committee. My name is Deborah Riddick. I am the Director of Government Relations for the Oregon Nurses Association (ONA). We represent 15,000 registered nurses and professional members, and the Nurse Practitioners of Oregon. The ONA supports HB 2390, which would require health benefit plan and health care service contract coverage of pediatric autoimmune neuropsychiatric disorders associated (PANDA) with streptococcal infections and pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome (PANDAS).

The ONA supports the provisions in HB 2390 that would support families in the coverage of diagnostic and treatment of PANDA/PANDAS. Because PANDA/PANDAS is a pediatric disorder, usually occurring before the age of three, it is important that families have the services available to inform intervention and to ensure appropriate follow up and tools are available. Because of the sudden onset of the symptoms associated with PANDA/PANDAS, families need access to services that will decrease barriers and hopelessness. Because the symptoms can impact attentiveness, anxiety levels, motor skills, joint pain, and sleep patterns, families need the additional professional support to determine changes in their child's behavior and psychologic but rather that they actually have a bacterial origin. And because the treatment for the underlying infection is antibiotic administration, there is a relatively low-cost cure.

ONA requests your support on HB 2390 because it is consistent with the State's effort to expand care, especially for children. Mandating coverage supports families and ensures that cost is not a barrier to treatment. Please vote yes on the bill.