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The Honorable Deborah Patterson
Oregon State Legislature 900
Court St. NE, H-489
Salem, Oregon 97301

Dear Senator Patterson

I am writing to express my support for and endorsement of SB 628, which would extend insurance coverage for patients diagnosed with PANS/PANDAS so that they can receive all evidence-based treatment options, to include IVIG. As you may know, PANS/PANDAS is a neuroinflammatory condition that often results in severe emotional and behavioral symptoms, tics and coordination challenges that occur due to ongoing brain inflammation. Although IVIG is currently recommended for moderate to severe cases, many children who would qualify for IVIG treatment are currently not able to access it due to denial of coverage by insurance. Out of pocket costs are extremely high – up to \$15,000 – which puts it out of reach for most families without insurance coverage. Passing SB 628 would be of incredible benefit to children and their families who are impacted by this devastating condition, and would allow all families – not just wealthy families or those willing/able to take on significant debt – to access all appropriate treatment options.

I would be happy to talk with you in more detail if that would be helpful. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

John Koshell, MD

Donna Kirchoff, M.D.
DSK/mjm