## EXHIBIT G DRAFT LTR TO GOV RE FUNDING ARKANSAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senator Kim Hammer, Co-Chairman Representative Les Warren, Co-Chairman Senator Missy Irvin, Vice-Chairman Representative Joe Cloud, Vice-Chairman

## **ARKANSAS PANS PANDAS ADVISORY COUNCIL**

June 11, 2020

The Honorable Asa Hutchinson, Governor State of Arkansas State Capitol, Suite 250 500 Woodlane Street Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 via electronic mail

Dear Governor Hutchinson:

The Arkansas Children's Hospital, in conjunction with the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, has a clinic to diagnose and treat a condition known as Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS); Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal infections (PANDAS)—PANS PANDAS. The clinic will serve Arkansas patients from all over the state as well as being the southern region's destination for this diagnosis and treatment.

The Childhood Post-Infectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy (CPAE) Clinic will need a full-time nurse who will be sent to the PACE Foundation in Arizona to be trained specifically to assist patients and the doctors in the PANS PANDAS diagnosis.

We are respectfully requesting your consideration for \$175,000 to be released from the Rainy Day Fund to fund Section 24 of Act 139 of the 2020 Fiscal Session to accommodate this request. A letter from G. Richard Smith, M.D., Chairman, Department of Psychiatry and Director, Psychiatric Research Institute, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences is attached in support of this request.

We appreciate your consideration.

The additional names below are members of the PANS PANDAS Advisory Council which voted at the March 9, 2020, meeting to support this worthy request.

Sincerely,

Senator Kim Hammer, Co-Chairman

Representative Les Warren, Co-Chairman

KDH:LW:cs

Attachment

Department of Psychiatry Psychiatric Research Institute 4301 W. Markham St. #554 Little Rock, AR 72205-7199 MAIN: 501-526-8140 FAX: 501-526-8199

psychiatry.uams.edu

**HANDOUT 2** 



G. Richard Smith, M.D. Marie Wilson Howells Distinguished Professor Chairman, Department of Psychiatry Director, Psychiatric Research Institute smithgrichard@uams.edu

February 10, 2020

Senator Kim Hammer 500 Woodlane Street State Capitol Building Little Rock, AR 72201

Representative Les Warren 500 Woodlane Street State Capitol Building Little Rock, AR 72201

Dear Senator Hammer and Representative Warren,

The purpose of this letter is to express support for your request of Governor Hutchinson for \$175,000 to provide support for a full-time nurse in the Arkansas Children's Hospital/UAMS PANS/PANDAS clinic and for the establishment of the PANS/PANDAS healthcare education program at UAMS. We will use \$100,000 of the funds for the initial funding of salary and benefits of a full-time nurse and the \$75,000 will be used for the education of healthcare professionals across the state of Arkansas.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your support of Arkansas Children's Hospital, UAMS and the care and welfare of children of Arkansas. As you know, Act 878 of 2019 provided insurance coverage for the treatment of Childhood Post-infectious Autoimmune Encephalopathy (PANS/PANDAS) and as required by Act 878, every available tool will be utilized to make healthcare services for the treatment of PANS and PANDAS available statewide. Since the enactment of Act 878 in 2019, we have been working to develop a program to serve the needs of children with PANS/PANDAS. Through this work, we have worked closely with Mr. Paul Ryan, founder of the PACE Foundation, a national non-profit organization dedicated to improving the diagnosis and treatment of PANS/PANDAS. Their foundation has collaborated with other academic medical centers in the development of four clinics for treatment of PANS/PANDAS. These clinics are located at the University of Arizona, the University of California at Los Angeles, Stanford University, and the University of Wisconsin Health. The PACE Foundation has already been working with us to establish our clinic at Arkansas Children's Hospital /UAMS. The PACE Foundation has provided valuable support and guidance to us, including training our two co-medical directors that work with patients with this rare condition.

Thank you again for your support of the care and welfare of the children of Arkansas and your continued support of Arkansas Children's Hospital and UAMS.

Sincerely,

G. Richard Smith, M.D.

cc: Dr. Cam Patterson Dr. Steppe Mette Dr. Christopher Westfall