



The Honorable Cory Booker
United States Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

July 21, 2017

Dear Senator Booker:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM), including our nationwide networks of advocates, thank you for your continued leadership on issues and legislation important to Americans with Alzheimer's and other dementias, and to their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Association and AIM are pleased to support the bipartisan In-Home Caregiver Assessment Resources and Education (CARE) Act, which would provide training and support for family caregivers, including those who care for people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias.

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's and without significant action, as many as 16 million Americans will have Alzheimer's by 2050. Today, another person develops the disease every 66 seconds; by 2050, someone in the United States will develop the disease every 33 seconds. This explosive growth will cause Alzheimer's costs to increase from an estimated \$259 billion in 2017 to \$1.1 trillion in 2050 (in 2017 dollars). These mounting costs threaten to bankrupt families, businesses and our health care system.

Unfortunately, the burden of caring for individuals with Alzheimer's and other dementias extends to millions of Americans caring for those with the disease. In 2016, 15.9 million unpaid caregivers provided 18.2 billion hours of care valued at more than \$230 billion. Alzheimer's caregivers also report higher levels of stress, depression and worse health outcomes when compared to others who are providing care to individuals without dementia. As a result, Alzheimer's caregivers incurred \$10.9 billion in additional health costs last year.

The In-Home CARE Act would provide much needed support for all family caregivers by providing for in-home visits and assessments. These assessments would assist families in responding to the needs of their loved ones by addressing gaps in the current knowledge and abilities of caregivers, and by providing referral for other critical services, such as respite care. In addition, the In-Home CARE Act supports the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* by advancing goals related to supporting families after a diagnosis, ensuring caregivers receive appropriate training, and enabling caregivers to care for a loved one while maintaining their own health and well-being.

The Alzheimer's Association and AIM deeply appreciate your continued leadership on behalf of all American's living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. We look forward to working with you to advance this bill. If you have any questions about this or any other legislation, please contact Rachel Conant, Senior Director of Federal Affairs, at rconant@alz-aim.org or at 202.638.7121.

Sincerely,

Robert Egge
Chief Public Policy Officer
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs
Alzheimer's Association