



The Honorable Mark Warner
U.S. Senate
475 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Johnny Isakson
U.S. Senate
131 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Earl Blumenauer
U.S. House of Representatives
1111 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Phil Roe
U.S. House of Representatives
336 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

June 6, 2017

Dear Senator Warner, Senator Isakson, Representative Blumenauer and Representative Roe:

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 Patient Choice and Quality Care Act of 2017, which would improve access to quality advance care planning for patients, including those 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.

Advanced care planning for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias is crucial to improving health outcomes, maintaining quality of life, controlling costs and planning appropriately for the future. Ensuring patients' goals, values and preferences are well documented is important, especially for people living with Alzheimer's and other dementias as the disease is progressive. The Patient Choice and Quality Care Act would increase awareness of and access to advance care planning. This would ensure physicians, patients and caregivers are aware of their care plans and that those plans are followed in the future. This type of coordinated, patient-centered care planning improves the quality of care people with Alzheimer's and other dementias receive and results in a higher quality of life.

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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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Egge', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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

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