



The Honorable Maxine Waters
United States House of Representatives
2221 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chris Smith
United States House of Representatives
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

June 16, 2017

Dear Representatives Waters and Smith:

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 Alzheimer's Disease Semipostal Stamp Act, which would require the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal stamp supporting medical research relating to Alzheimer's.

As co-chairs of the Congressional Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease, you know that 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.

Increased research funding at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for Alzheimer's and other dementias is crucial to finding a way to effectively treat or prevent the disease. A semipostal stamp that directs proceeds to Alzheimer's research at NIH would not only increase medical research funding, it would also raise public awareness about the disease and encourage Americans to make voluntary contributions to Alzheimer's research efforts.

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