



The Honorable Kathleen Rice
U.S. House of Representatives
1508 Longworth House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

August 1, 2018

Dear Representative Rice:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM), including our nationwide network 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 Younger-Onset Alzheimer's Disease Parity Act, H.R. 6646.

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's and, without significant action, nearly 14 million Americans will have Alzheimer's by 2050. Today, another person develops the disease every 65 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 \$277 billion in 2018 to \$1.1 trillion in 2050 (in 2018 dollars). These mounting costs threaten to bankrupt families, businesses and our health care system. Unfortunately, our work is only growing more urgent.

The Older Americans Act (OAA) was enacted to support a range of home and community based services and programs for older Americans, including nutrition services, in-home care, adult day care, and assistance for family caregivers. Programs through OAA are only available for Americans age 60 and older. As a result, individuals living with younger-onset Alzheimer's disease are unable to access these programs. The Younger-Onset Alzheimer's Disease Parity Act would change the OAA to make funding and programs available to Americans under the age of 60 who are living with Alzheimer's or other dementias.

The Alzheimer's Association and AIM deeply appreciate your continued leadership on behalf of all Americans living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your colleagues to improve care and support for individuals and families affected by Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. 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