



Congresswoman Jackie Walorski  
U.S. House of Representatives  
419 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

September 10, 2018

Dear Congresswoman Walorski,

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 Comprehensive Care for Seniors Act of 2018, H.R. 6561.

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 PACE model of care is comprehensive, person-centered, and focuses on high-need, high-cost Medicare and/or Medicaid beneficiaries 55 years of age and older who may live safely live in the community with the services and supports provided by PACE as an alternative to living in a facility. Approximately 46 percent of participants in the PACE program are living with dementia. An updated PACE regulation is critically important to the viability of the program. This legislation would require CMS to publish a final rule to provide PACE with stability and new opportunities to expand access by beneficiaries to high-quality, coordinated care.

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](mailto:rconant@alz-aim.org) or at 202.638.7121.

Sincerely,

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