



Congresswoman Ann McLane Kuster
320 Cannon House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Congressman Chris Smith
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Congresswoman Maxine Waters
2221 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

March 28, 2019

Dear Representatives Kuster, Smith and Waters

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 living with Alzheimer's and other dementias, and to their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Association and AIM supports legislation to conduct a study on antipsychotic prescribing practices in non-nursing home settings.

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 \$290 billion in 2019 to more than \$1.1 trillion in 2050 (in 2019 dollars). These mounting costs threaten to bankrupt families, businesses and our health care system. Unfortunately, our work is only growing more urgent.

The legislation would require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to conduct a study in conjunction with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Comptroller General of the United States on antipsychotic prescribing practices in non-nursing home settings under Medicare. The study would look at appropriate and inappropriate use of antipsychotics as well as whether individuals and physicians are aware of the health risks of the medications.

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 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

1212 New York Avenue NW | Suite 800 | Washington, D.C. 20005