



The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
U.S. Senate
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
U.S. Senate
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker
U.S. Senate
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bob Menendez
U.S. Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington D.C. 20510

May 22, 2019

Dear Senators Capito, Stabenow, Wicker and Menendez:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM), the Alzheimer's Association, and our nationwide network of advocates, thank you for supporting issues important to Americans with Alzheimer's and their caregivers, including the Concentrating on High-Value Alzheimer's Needs to Get to an End (CHANGE) Act of 2019, which aims to improve early assessment and diagnosis.

More than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease and without significant action, as many as 14 million Americans will have Alzheimer's by 2050. It is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States and the only one in the top ten causes of death for which there is no disease-modifying treatment. According to the Alzheimer's Association *2019 Facts and Figures Report*, the explosive growth will cause Alzheimer's costs to increase from an estimated \$290 billion in 2017 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.

By building up programs to provide better care and outcomes for individuals living with Alzheimer's and their caregivers, the CHANGE Act would strengthen cognitive impairment detection at Medicare Annual Wellness Visits, and test care delivery models to work to increase access to care and support programs for individuals living Alzheimer's and their caregivers. AIM and the Alzheimer's Association appreciate your leadership on these important issues. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Conant, Senior Director of Federal Affairs, at rconant@alz.org or at 202.638.7121.

Sincerely,

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