

Senator Ed Markey U.S. Senate 255 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510

Senator Chris Van Hollen U.S. Senate 110 Hart Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510 Senator Susan Collins U.S. Senate 413 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington D.C. 20510

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

June 6, 2019

Dear Senators Markey, Collins, Van Hollen and Capito:

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 are pleased to support the Alzheimer's semi-postal research stamp legislation (S. 1728/H.R. 3113).

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.

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 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