

Congresswoman Suzan DelBene
U.S. House of Representatives
2330 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515



June 20, 2019

Dear Representative DelBene,

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 Seniors' Chronic Care Management Improvement Act of 2019.

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 Seniors' Chronic Care Management Improvement Act would eliminate the required beneficiary copay for all chronic care management (CCM) reimbursement codes. This would have Medicare pay 100 percent of the reimbursement to the clinicians. Medicare beneficiaries with Alzheimer's or other dementias are more likely than those without dementia to have other chronic conditions. Twenty six percent of Medicare beneficiaries age 65 or older with Alzheimer's or other dementias have five or more chronic conditions, while only 4 percent of Medicare beneficiaries without Alzheimer's or other dementias have five or more chronic conditions.

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