



Representative David Cicilline
U.S. House of Representatives
2233 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

March 5, 2020

Dear Representative Cicilline,

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 their caregivers. AIM and the Alzheimer's Association are proud to support House Resolution 821 to establish a permanent select Committee on Aging in the House of Representatives.

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.

While lacking legislative authority, a House Permanent Select Committee on Aging would support and reinforce the work of committees with jurisdiction. The Committee could explore a range of issues and innovations that cross jurisdictional lines, while engaging communities, promoting understanding and dialogue, and holding field hearings. The Committee could look into additional needs not currently covered by Medicare for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. The Committee would also complement the strong bipartisan work of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, which has effectively promoted member understanding on a range of issues, including the concerns of fraud and abuse of seniors and the costs associated with isolation and loneliness.

Again, we deeply appreciate your continued leadership on behalf of all Americans living with Alzheimer's and other dementias. We look forward to working 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, Vice President 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