



The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
309 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ed Markey
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

July 15, 2020

Dear Senators Warren and Markey:

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 dementia, and to their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Association and AIM write in support of the Assisted Living Facility Coronavirus Reporting Act (S. 4184/H.R. 7463), which would increase crucial COVID-19 data collection and reporting in assisted living facilities.

Nursing homes and assisted living communities are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 crisis, where 48 percent of nursing home residents are living with dementia, and 42 percent of residents in residential care settings, including assisted living, have Alzheimer's or other dementia. Residents with dementia are particularly susceptible to COVID-19 due to their typical age, their significantly increased likelihood of coexisting chronic conditions, and the congregate nature of these settings. Across the country these communities, their staff, and their residents are experiencing a crisis due to a lack of transparency, an inability to access the necessary testing, inaccurate reporting, and more. According to some reports, more than 54,000 residents and employees of nursing homes and long-term care facilities have died, representing more than 40 percent of the total death toll in the United States.

The Assisted Living Facility Coronavirus Reporting Act would help protect this vulnerable population by increasing the collection and timely public reporting of COVID-19 data in assisted living facilities. This COVID-19 data would include information on the number of cases, testing, hospitalizations, and deaths among residents and staff. It would also require reporting on the amount of personal protective equipment and other medical supplies. Importantly, the bill would require this data to be broken down by demographic information, including race and ethnicity, which will be especially important in ensuring preparedness and targeted support for a potential second wave of COVID-19. These crucial provisions are consistent with the Alzheimer's Association's recently released policy recommendations, [*Improving the State and Federal Response to COVID-19 in Long-Term Care Settings*](#).

Again, the Alzheimer's Association and AIM deeply appreciate your continued leadership on behalf of all Americans living with Alzheimer's and other dementia. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Egge', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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