



The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rob Portman
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

March 9, 2021

Dear Senators Sinema and Portman:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and 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 their caregivers. AIM and the Alzheimer's Association are proud to support the bipartisan Homecare for Seniors Act.

An estimated 6.2 million Americans age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's dementia in 2021. Total payments for all individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias are estimated at \$355 billion (not including unpaid caregiving) in 2021. Medicare and Medicaid are expected to cover \$239 billion or 67% of the total health care and long-term care payments for people with Alzheimer's or other dementias. Total payments for health care, long-term care and hospice care for people with Alzheimer's and other dementias are projected to increase to more than \$1.1 trillion in 2050. These mounting costs threaten to bankrupt families, businesses and our health care system. Unfortunately, our work is only growing more urgent.

The Homecare for Seniors Act would allow tax-exempt distributions from health savings accounts to be used for qualified home care which includes important services provided at the residence of the recipient. Qualified home care would include activities of daily living such as assistance with eating, toileting, bathing, dressing, medication adherence and others. People living with dementia have a particularly high need for informal and formal support and are at a higher risk to leave their homes and move into facilities. The majority of older adults living with dementia would prefer to age in place in their homes. The Homecare for Seniors Act would allow more people living with dementia to stay at home for longer.

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, 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