



The Honorable Angus King  
United States Senate  
133 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bob Casey  
United States Senate  
393 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

January 27, 2022

Dear Senators King and Casey:

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. We write in support of the *Innovation in Aging Act*, S. 3473, which provides funding for the Administration for Community Living to consider looking at avenues for improvement in essential aging services, such as long term care and home-delivery meal programs.

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 *Older Americans Act*, long supported by the Association and AIM, provides a general framework to fund programs which support aging Americans, including home- and community- based services. The *Innovation in Aging Act* focuses on funding research and evaluations to implement improvements into these essential aging programs and services – building upon the legacy the *Older Americans Act* established. Improvements in efficiency, delivery, and engagement with programs such as elder abuse prevention, long-term care options, and meal delivery, are essential because they allow individuals to continue to age with dignity in their communities. The bill also focuses on offering technical assistance and training to promote best practices among providers in the aging services network, and would support partnerships and integrate programs and services to older adults across local communities. People with Alzheimer's or other dementias also account for a large proportion of all older adults who receive adult day services and nursing home care and this number is expected to grow substantially.

Again, 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 this Congress to improve the quality of care for people living with Alzheimer's. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Conant, Vice President, Federal Affairs, at [rconant@alz-aim.org](mailto:rconant@alz-aim.org) or at 202.638.7121.

Sincerely,

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