

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4606

April 11, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S. 128 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chair
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S. 146A The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Labor, HHS & Education
172 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Murray, Chairwoman Baldwin, Vice Chair Collins, and Ranking Member Capito:

As you work to assemble the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill, we urge you to continue to prioritize and build upon your commitments to Alzheimer's disease research and public health initiatives. We thank you for your continued commitment to increasing funding for Alzheimer's research and look forward to working with you given the tremendous human and economic costs of this devastating disease.

Alzheimer's disease and other dementias pose a grave threat to the health of our people and to the fiscal well-being of our nation's health programs. An estimated 6.7 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's dementia, a number that is projected to increase to nearly 13 million by 2050.¹ Alzheimer's is a debilitating and progressive disease. The impact of this disease almost always extends beyond just those diagnosed and impacts millions of family members, friends, and caregivers whose lives are forever changed. Alzheimer's and other dementias will also cost our nation an estimated \$345 billion in 2023, including \$222 billion in Medicare and Medicaid costs.² Unfortunately, our work is only growing more urgent.

In FY 2023, thanks to your work, Congress enacted a \$226 million increase for Alzheimer's research, bringing the country's total investment to more than \$3.7 billion. While we have achieved investments over the past decade, the need to accelerate Alzheimer's research to change the trajectory remains urgent. To that end, we urge you to continue making Alzheimer's disease research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) a priority.

¹ <https://www.alz.org/media/Documents/alzheimers-facts-and-figures.pdf>

² <https://www.alz.org/media/Documents/alzheimers-facts-and-figures.pdf>

To ensure that our federal investment in biomedical research reaches families facing Alzheimer's, we request robust funding for the bipartisan BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act, which was signed into law in December 2018 (P.L. 115-406). Headed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), this law represents the beginning of a bold new era for treating Alzheimer's by creating a public health infrastructure, bringing research to communities, reducing the risk of cognitive decline, and improving diagnosis and treatment of the disease. The funding increases appropriated for BOLD's implementation over the years continues to support meaningful steps forward and has allowed CDC to award funding to three Public Health Centers of Excellence and 23 public health departments. While this is an important step forward, we ask that you provide robust funding for BOLD's implementation, in order to have the meaningful impact that Congress intended and to address Alzheimer's as an urgent and growing public health crisis.

Finally, to continue to provide direct services to individuals and families, we urge you to include appropriate support for Alzheimer's disease and dementia initiatives through the Administration for Community Living (ACL), particularly for the National Alzheimer's Call Center.

We understand the challenges you face in setting FY 2024 appropriations levels, and we appreciate your consideration of this request.

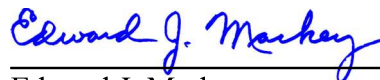
Sincerely,



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



Kevin Cramer
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Todd Young
United States Senator



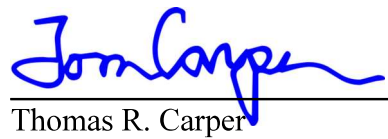
Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



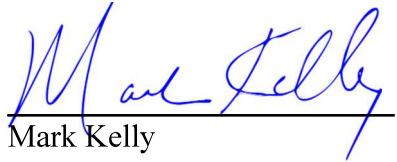
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Benjamin L. Cardin
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Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich
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Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell
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Tina Smith
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Robert Menendez
United States Senator



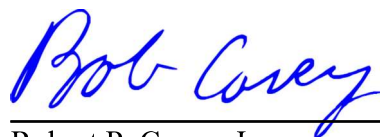
Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



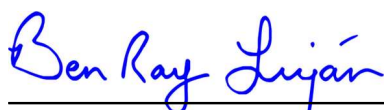
Jon Ossoff
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Amy Klobuchar
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Ben Ray Lujan
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Peter Welch
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