

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 28, 2019

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services and Education Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Cole
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human
Services and Education Appropriations
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

We thank you for your leadership in supporting robust funding for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). We write to request a \$350 million increase in funding for Alzheimer's research at NIH in FY 2020, as compared to the FY 2019 level.

Alzheimer's is a tragic disease affecting millions of Americans, and it has reached crisis proportions. There is no effective treatment, no means of prevention, and no method for slowing the progression of the disease. An estimated 5.8 million Americans of all ages are living with Alzheimer's in 2019. This number includes approximately 5.6 million people age 65 and older and an additional 200,000 people under age 65 who have younger-onset Alzheimer's. By 2050, the number of people age 65 and older with Alzheimer's may grow to a projected 13.8 million, in the absence of medical breakthroughs that would prevent, slow or cure the disease.

Alzheimer's is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States. In 2019, Alzheimer's and other dementias will cost the United States an estimated \$290 billion, including \$195 billion in Medicare and Medicaid payments. Alzheimer's disease and related dementias will increase exponentially as the baby boom generation ages. At the current rate, the cost of Alzheimer's will reach \$1.1 trillion dollars in 2050.

Our nation is at a crossroads. We must act now to change the trajectory of this disease. The National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease calls for a cure or an effective treatment for Alzheimer's by the year 2025. Reaching this goal will require a significant increase in federal funding for Alzheimer's research.

We therefore urge you to provide a \$350 million increase in funding for Alzheimer's research for a total appropriation of \$2.65 billion in FY 2020 for Alzheimer's Disease including Alzheimer's Disease Related Dementias (AD/ADRD). We thank you for your attention to our concerns, and we look forward to working with you to invest in research that will lead to a cure for this devastating disease.

Sincerely,


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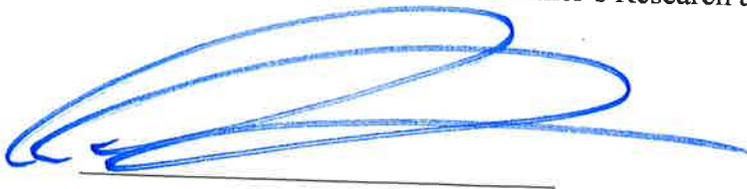
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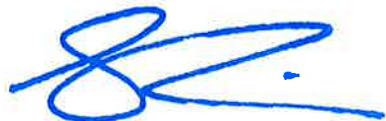
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Alzheimer's Research at NIH, FY 2020

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Alzheimer's Research at NIH, FY 2020
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March 28, 2019

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