



The Honorable Cory Booker
U.S. Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Pascrell
U.S. House of Representatives
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

September 25, 2014

Dear Senator Booker and Representative Pascrell:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and its nationwide network of advocates, thank you for your continued support on issues and legislation important to Americans with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Association proudly supports the *In Home Caregiver Assessment Resources and Education (CARE) Act (S. 2866, H.R. 5633)*, which would help to provide additional support for family caregivers in the community.

As you know, more than 5 million Americans are living with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia. Additionally, more than 15 million friends and family members are acting as unpaid caregivers for those with the disease. In 2013 alone, these caregivers provided more than 17 billion hours of care, at an economic value of more than \$220 billion. Unfortunately, caring for someone with Alzheimer's often creates or aggravates health problems of a caregiver. In 2013, the physical and emotional impact of caregiving for someone with Alzheimer's disease resulted in an estimated \$9.3 billion in additional health care costs for caregivers. Supporting caregivers in their homes is critical to improving care and quality of life for both the caregiver and the person living with dementia.

The *In Home Caregiver Assessment Resources and Education (CARE) Act (S. 2866, H.R. 5633)* provides new avenues of support for all family caregivers by providing for in-home visits and assessments. These assessments will assist families in responding to the needs of their loved ones by addressing gaps in the current knowledge and abilities of caregivers, and by providing referral for other critical services, such as respite care. In addition, the *In Home CARE Act (S. 2.866, H.R. 5633)* supports the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* by advancing goals related to supporting families after a diagnosis, ensuring caregivers receive appropriate training, and enabling caregivers to care for a loved one while maintaining their own health and well-being.

The Alzheimer's Association deeply appreciates your continued leadership on behalf of all American's living with Alzheimer's. If you have any questions about this or any other legislation, please contact Rachel Conant, Director of Federal Affairs, at rconant@alz.org or at 202.638.7121.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Egge".

Robert Egge
Vice President, Public Policy