



Senator Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Amy Klobuchar
United States Senate
302 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

November 19, 2013

Dear Senator Collins and Senator Klobuchar:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and its nationwide network of advocates, thank you for your continued leadership on issues and legislation important to Americans with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Association proudly endorses your most recent Alzheimer's resolution, which supports the goals of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and increased funding for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health.

The Alzheimer's Association is the world's leading voluntary health organization in Alzheimer's care, support and research. Our mission is to eliminate Alzheimer's disease and other dementias through the advancement of research; to provide and enhance care and support for all affected; and to reduce the risk of dementia through the promotion of brain health. Our vision is a world without Alzheimer's.

As two of our nation's strongest voices on behalf of Americans living with Alzheimer's, you know that more than 5 million Americans are living with the disease, and without significant action, as many as 16 million Americans will have Alzheimer's by 2050. A recent study funded by the National Institutes of Health and published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* further confirmed that Alzheimer's disease is the most expensive disease in America. Additionally, as the baby boomer generation ages, one in eight will develop Alzheimer's. This explosive growth will cause Alzheimer's costs to Medicare and Medicaid to increase from \$142 billion today to more than \$800 billion in 2050 (in today's dollars) and threatens to bankrupt families, businesses and our health care system. Unfortunately, our work is only growing more urgent.

The passage of the National Alzheimer's Project Act in 2010, and the subsequent release of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease, marks a new era for Alzheimer's disease and other dementias. Achieving the first goal of the National Plan, to prevent and effectively treat Alzheimer's disease by 2025, and supporting individuals with the disease and their caregivers are critical to the success of this legislation. The Alzheimer's Association strongly supports efforts to increase funding for Alzheimer's research at the National Institutes of Health, and we applaud you for your efforts.

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", written over a white background.

Robert Egge
Vice President, Public Policy