

# FACTSHEET

APRIL 2019

alzimpact.org

## Alzheimer's Accountability Act

### What is the Alzheimer's Accountability Act and what does it require?

- The Alzheimer's Accountability Act is bipartisan legislation enacted as part of the fiscal year 2015 omnibus appropriations bill (Public Law 113-235).
- The law requires the scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to submit an annual Alzheimer's research budget proposal directly to Congress, thus bypassing the usual bureaucratic budget procedures.
- This budget proposal—known as the Alzheimer's Bypass Budget—specifies the resources that scientists need to reach the National Alzheimer's Plan goal of preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's disease by 2025.

### What does the Alzheimer's Accountability Act have to do with the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease*?

- The National Plan, released in May 2012, sets a goal of preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's disease by 2025. To reach that goal, the NIH has established research milestones and timelines.
- The Alzheimer's Accountability Act requires the NIH to develop an Alzheimer's research budget each year through 2025, specifying the level of investment scientists believe is needed to achieve the milestones and 2025 goal.

### Alzheimer's Research Milestones

To achieve the National Alzheimer's Plan's goal of preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's by 2025, the NIH has established 108 milestones across 19 areas of research, including drug development, biomarkers, non-pharmacological interventions, and clinical trial recruitment.

### Why is the Alzheimer's Accountability Act important?

- Given the financial burden Alzheimer's puts on Medicare and Medicaid—\$195 billion in 2019, growing to a projected \$770 billion in 2050—a commitment to Alzheimer's research today will yield savings tomorrow.
- The Alzheimer's Accountability Act ensures Congress hears directly from scientists what they will need to meet the nation's goal and equips Congress with the best information to determine necessary Alzheimer's research funding levels each year through 2025.

### What does the Alzheimer's Bypass Budget request?

- The NIH released the most recent Alzheimer's Bypass Budget in July 2018.
- Based on the targets outlined in the Bypass Budget, Congress should provide an additional \$350 million in Alzheimer's research funding in fiscal year 2020.