



The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Chair
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2322A Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chair
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Health
2434 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
Ranking Member
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Energy and Commerce
Subcommittee on Health
272 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

February 14, 2024

Dear Chairs Rodgers and Guthrie, and Ranking Members Pallone and Eshoo:

On behalf of the Alzheimer's Association and the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM), including our nationwide network of advocates, thank you for your continued leadership on issues and legislation important to Americans living with Alzheimer's and other dementia, and to their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Association and AIM write today to thank the Subcommittee for holding a hearing on legislative proposals to support patients and caregivers, including the bipartisan NAPA Reauthorization Act (H.R. 619/S. 133), which would extend the work of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease, among other provisions.

As you know, the burden of Alzheimer's on individuals and families continues to grow. Today, more than 6 million Americans aged 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's dementia, and by mid-century, this number is expected to nearly double. Total payments for all individuals living with this disease are estimated at \$345 billion (not including unpaid caregiving). Medicare and Medicaid are expected to cover \$222 billion, or 64 percent of the total health care and long-term care payments for people with Alzheimer's or other dementia. Total payments for health care costs, including hospice care, for people with Alzheimer's and other dementia are projected to increase to nearly \$1.1 trillion by 2050. These mounting costs threaten to bankrupt families, businesses, and our health care system. Unfortunately, our work is only growing more urgent.

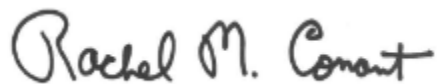
In 2011, Congress passed the bipartisan National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA) (P.L. 111-375), resulting in the landmark [National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease](#) (The National Plan). The National Plan, which is updated by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) annually, continues to drive meaningful action, creating and implementing strategies to address Alzheimer's and other dementia on both national and state levels. NAPA also led to the creation of the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care, and Services, which is a panel of federal and non-federal experts that convene regularly to provide recommendations and annually update the coordinated strategic National Plan. While the National Plan has driven enormous progress in research, clinical and long-term care, and public awareness, we still have much work to do.

The NAPA Reauthorization Act would continue the great progress of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease through 2035 and would add several federal seats to the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care

and Services, including the Department of Justice, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and Social Security Administration. The bill also adds language to help address healthy aging and risk reduction for Alzheimer's disease to reflect the new sixth goal of the National Plan. The legislation has strong bipartisan, bicameral support in Congress, having recently surpassed 100 cosponsors in the House of Representatives. The Subcommittee action today builds upon Senate momentum, following the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee's June 2023 markup of the legislation. Swift passage of the NAPA Reauthorization Act would provide HHS the certainty and stability to continue both immediate and long-term planning for a strategic nationwide approach to Alzheimer's and other dementia.

The Alzheimer's Association and AIM deeply appreciate your continued leadership on behalf of all Americans living with Alzheimer's and other dementia, and we look forward to working with you to advance this important bipartisan bill. If you have any questions about this or any other legislation, please contact Sarah Tellock, Director of Congressional Affairs, at stellock@alz-aim.org or at 202.638.8676.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel M. Conant". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rachel Conant
Vice President, Federal Affairs, Alzheimer's Association
Executive Director, Alzheimer's Impact Movement