April 26, 2024

The Honorable Robert Aderholt
Chairman
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations
Washington, DC  20515

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

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member DeLaura:

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 $318 million increase in funding for Alzheimer’s research at NIH in FY 2025, as compared to the FY 2024 level of more than $3.8 billion.

Alzheimer’s has reached crisis proportions in the United States. It was the fifth leading cause of death among people age 65 and older in 2021, and while promising scientific research is ongoing, there is still no cure and no means of preventing Alzheimer’s. Nearly 7 million Americans age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer’s, and that number is expected to increase exponentially as the baby boom generation ages. By 2050, the number of people age 65 and older with Alzheimer’s could reach nearly 13 million in the absence of medical breakthroughs that would prevent or cure the disease. Furthermore, in 2024, Alzheimer’s and other dementias are projected to cost our nation an estimated $360 billion in health care and long term care expenses, including $231 billion in Medicare and Medicaid payments. At the current rate, the cost of care for these tragic conditions will reach nearly $1 trillion by 2050.

Our nation is at a crossroads. We must act now to change the trajectory of this disease.

We therefore urge you to provide a $318 million increase in FY 2025 NIH research funding 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,

Maxine Waters
Member of Congress

Christopher H. Smith
Member of Congress
Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

Marilyn Strickland
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress

Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan
Member of Congress

Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress

Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

Al Green
Member of Congress
Scion of the Enslaved Africans - Sacrificed to Make America Great

Dean Phillips
Member of Congress
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress

Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress

Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress

Andre Carson  
Member of Congress

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer  
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress

Glenn Ivey  
Member of Congress

Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress