## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

April 26, 2022

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

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

Dear Chairwoman DeLauro and Ranking Member Cole:

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 \$226 million increase in funding for Alzheimer's research at NIH in FY 2023, as compared to the FY 2022 level of approximately \$3.4 billion.

Alzheimer's has reached crisis proportions in the United States. It was the sixth leading cause of death in the United States prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and while promising scientific research is ongoing, there is still no effective treatment, no means of prevention, and no method for slowing the progression of Alzheimer's. More than 6 million Americans age 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's in 2022, 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 may nearly double, in the absence of medical breakthroughs that would prevent, slow, or cure the disease. Furthermore, in 2022, Alzheimer's and other dementias will cost our nation an estimated \$321 billion in health care and long-term care expenses, including \$206 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. The National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease calls for a cure or an effective treatment for Alzheimer's by the year 2025. Reaching this goal will require a significant increase in federal funding for Alzheimer's research.

We therefore urge you to provide a \$226 million increase in funding for Alzheimer's research for a total appropriation of approximately \$3.626 billion in FY 2023 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,

Muline Waters

Maxine Waters

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Christopher H. Smith

- /s Jake Auchincloss
- /s Nanette Diaz Barragán
- /s Joyce Beatty
- /s Donald S. Beyer Jr.
- /s Earl Blumenauer
- /s Lisa Blunt Rochester
- /s Suzanne Bonamici
- /s Carolyn Bourdeaux
- /s Brendan F. Boyle
- /s Anthony G. Brown
- /s Julia Brownley
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- /s William R. Keating
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