



June 5, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Dear Representative:

Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease (LEAD Coalition)ⁱ respectfully requests that you become a co-sponsor of House Resolution 489,ⁱⁱ which calls for the United States to lead a global response to Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

Alzheimer's disease and related disorders currently impose enormous costs to our nation's health and prosperity, costs that are skyrocketing.ⁱⁱⁱ Today, more than five million Americans^{iv} have dementia at an annual cost to our economy exceeding \$200 billion;^v it kills approximately 500,000 Americans each year, making it the third leading cause of death in the United States.^{vi} Globally, 44 million people have dementia^{vii} with annual costs exceeding \$600 billion or about 1 percent of the world's GDP.^{viii} If the current trajectory of the disease persists, upwards of 135 million persons worldwide will have dementia in 2050.^{ix}

In 2012, the United States established a national goal of preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's by 2025 along with goals for strengthening clinical care and long-term services and support.^x Less than 18 months later, the G8 (now G7) Dementia Summit followed American leadership and adopted a dozen research, care and support goals – notably including America's 2025 goal.^{xi} Five weeks ago, the World Dementia Council^{xii} convened to drive and coordinate the G7 nations' work. Over the coming nine months, G7 nations -- in partnership with the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, the World Health Organization, the European Commission, the European Union Joint Programme on Neurodegenerative Disease, and civil society -- will host more than half a dozen 'legacy meetings' to develop cross sector partnerships and innovation to accomplish all the objectives agreed upon at the 2013 Dementia Summit.^{xiii} The legacy meetings will culminate in February at the National Institutes of Health's Alzheimer's Disease Research Summit 2015.

H. Res. 489 calls upon the United States to lead and support creation of a Global Alzheimer's and Dementia Action Plan. The plan would coordinate national and international efforts to advance: research; clinical care; support for caregivers; and prevention, public awareness and education. American leadership will ensure that limited resources are used wisely and without duplication of effort. International coordination and collaboration will accelerate development of effective therapies and treatments while propagating best care and support practices for people with dementia and their caregivers. American leadership changed the trajectory in the global fight

against HIV/AIDS; now is the time for similar American leadership against Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

The LEAD Coalition applauds Representative Chris Smith and Representative Chaka Fattah for introducing H.Res. 489 and respectfully urges you to become a co-sponsor by contacting cate.benedetti@mail.house.gov or brenden.chainey@mail.house.gov.

Thank you for considering our views and for your commitment to overcoming Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. Please contact Ian Kremer, the LEAD Coalition's executive director, at ikremer@leadcoalition.org or (571) 383-9916, with questions or for additional information.

Sincerely,

Abe's Garden

Laura D. Baker, PhD (Wake Forest School of Medicine*)

Academy of Radiology Research

Beating Alzheimer's by Embracing Science

ActivistsAgainstAlzheimer's

African American Network Against Alzheimer's

James Brewer, M.D., Ph.D. (UC San Diego and Alzheimer's Disease Cooperative Study*)

Aging and Memory Disorder Programs, Howard University

BrightFocus Foundation

Alzheimers North Carolina

Caregiver Action Network

Alzheimer's & Dementia Alliance of Wisconsin

Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment, Harvard Medical School

Alzheimer's Foundation of America, LEAD Coalition co-convener

ClergyAgainstAlzheimer's

Cleveland Clinic Foundation

Alzheimer's Research and Prevention Foundation

Coalition for Imaging and Bioengineering Research

Alzheimer's Tennessee

Cognition Therapeutics

American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry

CorTechs Labs

American Association for Long Term Care Nursing

Cortica Neurosciences, Inc.

Critical Path Institute

American Brain Coalition

Jeffrey Cummings, MD, ScD (Cleveland Clinic Lou Ruvo Center for Brain Health*)

Assisted Living Federation of America

Cure Alzheimer's Fund	Kostas Lyketsos, M.D., M.H.S. (Johns Hopkins Memory and Alzheimer's Treatment Center*)
Darrell K. Royal Fund for Alzheimer's Research	Memory Training Centers of America
Rachelle S. Doody, MD, PhD (Baylor College of Medicine*)	Merck
Eli Lilly and Company	David G. Morgan, PhD (USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute*)
Forest Laboratories, Inc.	National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities
Geoffrey Beene Foundation Alzheimer's Initiative	National Caucus and Center on Black Aged, Inc. (NCBA)
Georgetown University Medical Center Memory Disorders Program	National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
Gerontological Society of America	National Council on Aging (NCOA)
Global Coalition on Aging	National Down Syndrome Society
David Holtzman, MD (Washington University School of Medicine, Department of Neurology*)	National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices
Home Instead Senior Care	New York Academy of Sciences
Huntington's Disease Society of America	NYU Alzheimer's Disease Center
Inspire	NYU Langone Center on Cognitive Neurology
Iona Senior Services	Thomas O. Obisesan, MD, MPH (Howard University Hospital*)
Janssen Research & Development, LLC	OWL-The Voice of Midlife and Older Women
Keep Memory Alive	Pat Summitt Foundation
Walter A. Kukull, PhD (School of Public Health, University of Washington*)	Pfizer, Inc.
Linked Senior, Inc.	Piramal Imaging
LuMind Foundation (formerly Down Syndrome Research and Treatment Foundation)	Project Lifesaver International
	RemeGenix, Inc.

Research!America	R. Scott Turner, MD, PhD (Georgetown University Memory Disorders Program*)
ResearchersAgainstAlzheimer's	
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Stephen Salloway, M.D., M.S. (The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University*)	USF Health Byrd Alzheimer's Institute
Reisa A. Sperling, MD, MMSc (Center for Alzheimer Research and Treatment, Harvard Medical School*)	Volunteers of America
Rudolph Tanzi, PhD (Department of Neurology, MGH/Harvard Medical School*)	Washington University in St. Louis Department of Neurology, the Knight Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, and the Hope Center for Neurological Disorders
Taos Health Systems	Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute
The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration	Women Against Alzheimer's

** Affiliations of individual researchers are for identification purposes only and do not necessarily represent the endorsement of the affiliated institution.*

ⁱ [Leaders Engaged on Alzheimer's Disease](#) (LEAD Coalition) is a diverse and growing national coalition of 67 member organizations including patient advocacy and voluntary health non-profits, philanthropies and foundations, trade and professional associations, academic research and clinical institutions, and homecare, biotechnology and pharmaceutical companies. The LEAD Coalition works collaboratively to focus the nation's strategic attention on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias -- including vascular, Lewy body or frontotemporal dementia -- and to accelerate transformational progress in detection and diagnosis, care and support, and research leading to prevention, effective treatment and eventual cure. One or more participants may have a financial interest in the subjects addressed.

ⁱⁱ <http://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-resolution/489>

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMsa1204629>

^{iv} <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/NatIPlan2014.pdf>

^v <http://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMsa1204629>

^{vi} <http://www.neurology.org/content/early/2014/03/05/WNL.0000000000000240>

vii <http://www.alz.co.uk/research/GlobalImpactDementia2013.pdf>

viii http://www.nia.nih.gov/sites/default/files/global_health_and_aging.pdf

ix <http://www.alz.co.uk/research/GlobalImpactDementia2013.pdf>

x <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/NatIPlan.pdf>

xi <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/g8-dementia-summit-agreements/g8-dementia-summit-declaration>

xii <http://dementiachallenge.dh.gov.uk/about-the-council/>

xiii <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/g8-dementia-summit-agreements/g8-dementia-summit-declaration>