

## H Res 351/S Res 176

### **A congressional resolution authorizing a semi-postal stamp to support medical research relating to Alzheimer's disease.**

#### **Background and Bill Summary**

Expresses the sense of the Congress that the United States Postal Service (USPS) should (1) issue a semi-postal stamp to support medical research relating to Alzheimer's disease and; (2) Transfer to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) for that purpose any amounts becoming available from the sale of that stamp.

#### **Status**

H RES 351 was introduced in the United States House of Representatives by Representative Edward J. Markey [MA-7] on July 14, 2011. After introduction, the Resolution was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform and the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Health.

S RES 176 was introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Barbara Mikulski [MD] on May 10, 2011. After introduction, the Resolution was referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs. It has [2 Cosponsors](#).

#### **Rationale for this legislation:**

- Over 5 million (5.4 million) Americans age 65 and older are thought to have Alzheimer's disease. By 2050, the number of Americans with this disease could increase to over 15 million.
- The national cost of Alzheimer's disease (in people over 65 years old) was \$183 billion in 2011, and by 2050 it will be \$1.1 trillion.
- One person in the United States is diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease approximately every 69 seconds.
- It is estimated that almost 500,000 new cases of Alzheimer's disease will be diagnosed this year.
- According to data from the CDC, in 2010, more than 82,000 deaths were recorded as being caused by Alzheimer's disease.

- Alzheimer's disease is the 6th leading cause of death in the United States.
- It is estimated that there were 35.6 million people living with dementia worldwide in 2010, and will increase to 65.7 million by 2030 and 115.4 million by 2050.
- Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia.
- By 2048, 1 in 45 people may be living with Alzheimer's disease.
- Alzheimer's disease usually begins after age 60 and risk increases with age. Younger people in their 30s, 40s and 50s may get Alzheimer's disease, but it is rare.
- Approximately 5 percent of all cases of Alzheimer's disease are believed to be familial (hereditary). In familial cases, often called early-onset Alzheimer's disease, symptoms typically appear within the age range of 30 - 60 years.
- It is estimated that more than one in three Americans 85 years and older have Alzheimer's disease.
- The lifetime risk of Alzheimer's disease among those who reached the age of 65 is approximately 1 in 5 for women and 1 in 10 among men.