



**BrightFocus™
Foundation**

Cure in Mind. Cure in Sight.

Alzheimer's Disease Research
Macular Degeneration Research
National Glaucoma Research

September 18, 2015

The Honorable Roger Wicker
U.S. Senate
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wicker:

On behalf of BrightFocus Foundation, I am writing to strongly support the Ensuring Useful Research Expenditures is Key for Alzheimer's (EUREKA) Act. I want to thank you for your leadership in introducing this important legislation.

Each year in America there are approximately 500,000 new cases of Alzheimer's disease. With an average of 10,000 Baby Boomers turning 65 each day, the demands on families, public and private health care systems, and our economy will only get worse until we stem this rising tide. The EUREKA Act is a much-needed effort to use the promising tool of scientific challenges to spark new and innovative approaches to prevent and cure this terrible disease. While I am encouraged by growing bipartisan support to increase federal research dollars for Alzheimer's, I agree with you that we also need to incentivize new and bold breakthroughs in this area.

BrightFocus drives innovative research worldwide and promotes awareness of Alzheimer's, macular degeneration, and glaucoma. We recently announced nearly \$6 million in new scientific grants through our Alzheimer's Disease Research program, including support for several efforts to accelerate the pace of clinical trials. In 2013 BrightFocus co-sponsored a major prize competition to spur new research discoveries on the gender disparities of Alzheimer's.

BrightFocus Foundation is proud to support the Ensuring Useful Research Expenditures is Key for Alzheimer's (EUREKA) Act. Thank you for your strong leadership on this issue, and please do not hesitate to contact me at 301-556-9353 or shaller@brightfocus.org if I can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Stacy Pagos Haller
President and CEO