

September 17, 2015

The Honorable Rogers F. Wicker
United States Senate
555 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wicker:

On behalf of the millions of Americans battling Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their family caregivers, I am writing to applaud you for introducing the Ensuring Useful Research Expenditures is Key for Alzheimer's (EUREKA) Act. **UsAgainstAlzheimer's is pleased to endorse the EUREKA Act, and we do so enthusiastically. We look forward to working with you and your staff to advance this legislation into law.**

The EUREKA Act recognizes the need for innovative approaches to address the Alzheimer's and dementia crisis by deploying prize competitions to address the major scientific impediments standing in the way of achieving our national goal of preventing and treating Alzheimer's disease by 2025 and improving care and support for persons with Alzheimer's and their caregivers. If enacted into law, EUREKA competitions would supplement National Institutes of Health (NIH) resources committed to Alzheimer's research by focusing on specific high-priority milestones identified and evaluated by leading experts. This approach syncs nicely with the research milestones developed as part of the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease and with Sec. 230 of Public Law 113-235 that requires the Director of the NIH to assemble and send to the President and Congress an annual budget estimate to achieve the research goals of the plan.

UsAgainstAlzheimer's has been a leader of multiple projects designed to drive greater levels of public-private partnerships to achieve the 2025 and other goals within the national plan. We recognize that government resources alone are simply inadequate and that a national plan requires the commitment of all parties, including the private sector, if we hope to be successful. EUREKA epitomizes a public-private partnership, including by enabling non-governmental entities to contribute to the prize fund and by forming an expert advisory panel to advise on the specific challenges to be pursued. It is a fiscally responsible approach toward addressing the gargantuan health and cost burdens of Alzheimer's disease and dementia, particularly because the prize competition means our government will only award funding if clear goals and milestones are achieved.

I thank you for introducing the EUREKA Act and for your passionate commitment to stopping Alzheimer's disease by 2025 if not sooner. Your dedication to this cause is deeply appreciated by all who have felt the devastating effects of Alzheimer's disease first-hand, and I look forward to working with you to advance the EUREKA Act into law.

Sincerely,



George Vradenburg
Founder and Chairman