

Katy Giorgio

From: Joshua Lonn <Joshua.Lonn.379609637@p2a.co>
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 12:57 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

1 in 5 baby boomers can expect to develop dementia (1). Of those baby boomers who reach the age of 80, one in every two will develop Alzheimer's (2). This is why the Alzheimer's Association has classified baby boomers as the Alzheimer's Generation. Alaska Natives have the highest likelihood of any race to develop dementia, as 35% of Alaska Native peoples can expect to develop dementia in their lifetime (3). A dementia public awareness campaign is instrumental to preparing Alaskans for the approaching dementia tsunami.

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1) Alzheimer's Association. <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/ElderCare/story?id=4472830&page=1>

2) Alzheimer's Association. https://act.alz.org/site/DocServer/ALZ_BoomersReport.pdf?docID=521

3) Mayeda, E. R., Glymour, M. M., Quesenberry, C. P., & Whitmer, R. A. (2016, March). Inequalities in dementia incidence between six racial and ethnic groups over 14 years. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association*, 12(3), 216-224. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jalz.2015.12.007>

Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Joshua Lonn

Anchorage, AK 99515

Katy Giorgio

From: Raymond Clements <Raymond.Clements.360764004@p2a.co>
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 12:46 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Raymond Clements

Anchorage, AK 99507

Katy Giorgio

From: Dawnia Clements <Dawnia.Clements.360764004@p2a.co>
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2022 12:49 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Dawnia Clements

Anchorage, AK 99507

Katy Giorgio

From: Linzey White <Linzey.White.379668489@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 7:02 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Linzey White

Kenai, AK 99611

Katy Giorgio

From: Steffi Kim <Steffi.Kim.525080721@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 8:11 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Steffi Kim

Anchorage, AK 99516

Katy Giorgio

From: Jewel Healy <Jewel.Healy.524575318@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 10:28 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Jewel Healy

Fairbanks, AK 99707

Katy Giorgio

From: Alice Belden <Alice.Belden.524576560@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 11:35 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Alice Belden

Anchorage, AK 99504

Katy Giorgio

From: robin freitas <robin.freitas.524458723@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 8:41 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
robin freitas

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: Clyde Nebgen <Clyde.Nebgen.524455960@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 7:51 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Clyde Nebgen

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: JANIS WILLIAMSON <JANIS.WILLIAMSON.524574445@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 9:51 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
JANIS WILLIAMSON

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: Mary Bentz <Mary.Bentz.524459795@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 9:03 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Mary Bentz

Juneau, AK 99803

Katy Giorgio

From: jeanne wolf <jeanne.wolf.524455645@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 7:44 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
jeanne wolf

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: Alvin Kennedy <Alvin.Kennedy.524577190@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 12:26 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Alvin Kennedy

Anchorage, AK 99521

Katy Giorgio

From: Jane Daniels <Jane.Daniels.525082611@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 8:30 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Jane Daniels

Anchorage, AK 99501

Katy Giorgio

From: Denice Gilroy <Denice.Gilroy.525259417@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 1:59 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Denice Gilroy

Nome, AK 99762

Katy Giorgio

From: Sherri Roberds <Sherri.Roberds.285859562@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 9:20 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Sherri Roberds

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: Carrol Lyberger <Carrol.Lyberger.380137279@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 2:25 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Carrol Lyberger

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: Heidi Uhl <Heidi.Uhl.525268273@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 2:40 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Heidi Uhl

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: Jayne Wallingford <Jayne.Wallingford.248216674@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 3:16 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Jayne Wallingford

Anchorage, AK 99517

Katy Giorgio

From: Mitzi Anderson <Mitzi.Anderson.248244754@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 3:45 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Mitzi Anderson

Anchorage, AK 99515

Katy Giorgio

From: Micheleen Pennington <Micheleen.Pennington.497144290@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 4:09 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Micheleen Pennington

Anchorage, AK 99504

Katy Giorgio

From: Cindy Harris <Cindy.Harris.150902463@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 4:23 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Cindy Harris

Soldotna, AK 99669

Katy Giorgio

From: Jeff Irvin <Jeff.Irvin.248278856@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 4:45 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Jeff Irvin

Juneau, AK 99801

Katy Giorgio

From: Cristanne Swanda <Cristanne.Swanda.305399821@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 6:04 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Cristanne Swanda

Anchorage, AK 99504

Katy Giorgio

From: Cara Somma <Cara.Somma.425575327@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 7:50 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Cara Somma

Fort Bliss, TX 79906

Katy Giorgio

From: Ken Landfield <Ken.Landfield.525315324@p2a.co>
Sent: Friday, February 11, 2022 11:01 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Ken Landfield

Homer, AK 99603

Katy Giorgio

From: Mary Huff <Mary.Huff.525354312@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2022 9:20 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Mary Huff

Homer, AK 99603

Katy Giorgio

From: Mitchell Roth <Mitchell.Roth.525355636@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2022 9:33 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Mitchell Roth

Girdwood, AK 99587

Katy Giorgio

From: Rhonda Scott <Rhonda.Scott.150902472@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2022 2:40 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Rhonda Scott

Anchorage, AK 99502

Katy Giorgio

From: Michael Leonard <Michael.Leonard.525382799@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2022 2:58 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Michael Leonard

Anchorage, AK 99507

Katy Giorgio

From: George Durgan <George.Durgan.525076438@p2a.co>
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2022 4:50 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
George Durgan

Fairbanks, AK 99712

Katy Giorgio

From: George Durgan <George.Durgan.525076438@p2a.co>
Sent: Sunday, February 13, 2022 8:46 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

I strongly support Speaker Stutes' HB 308. This legislation directs the Department of Health and Social Services to promote information regarding the importance of a timely diagnosis and the signs and symptoms of different types of dementia. Please vote in support of the dementia public awareness bill if you come across it in committee or on the chamber floor.

1 in 5 baby boomers can expect to develop dementia (1). Of those baby boomers who reach the age of 80, one in every two will develop Alzheimer's (2). This is why the Alzheimer's Association has classified baby boomers as the Alzheimer's Generation. Alaska Natives have the highest likelihood of any race to develop dementia, as 35% of Alaska Native peoples can expect to develop dementia in their lifetime (3). A dementia public awareness campaign is instrumental to preparing Alaskans for the approaching dementia tsunami.

Early diagnosis of dementia allows patients to access treatments and research trials that may slow the progression of the disease so Alaskans can contribute to our communities longer. The earlier Alaskans recognize the signs of dementia, the more action they can take to slow the progression of the disease.

1) Alzheimer's Association. <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/ElderCare/story?id=4472830&page=1>

2) Alzheimer's Association. https://act.alz.org/site/DocServer/ALZ_BoomersReport.pdf?docID=521

3) Mayeda, E. R., Glymour, M. M., Quesenberry, C. P., & Whitmer, R. A. (2016, March). Inequalities in dementia incidence between six racial and ethnic groups over 14 years. *Alzheimer's & Dementia: The Journal of the Alzheimer's Association*, 12(3), 216-224. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jalz.2015.12.007>

Together we can save Alaskan lives,
George Durgan

Fairbanks, AK 99712

Katy Giorgio

From: Marianne Kristiansen <Marianne.Kristiansen.525514512@p2a.co>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 2:57 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Marianne Kristiansen

Anchorage, AK 99517

Katy Giorgio

From: Kylie Thornlow <Kylie.Thornlow.525553807@p2a.co>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 10:14 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Kylie Thornlow

Palmer, AK 99645

Katy Giorgio

From: Margaret Waite <Margaret.Waite.525642051@p2a.co>
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 9:38 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

Dear Supporting Dementia Awareness Bill House HSS,

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Margaret Waite

North Pole, AK 99705

Katy Giorgio

From: Halli Kenoyer <Halli.Kenoyer.380154036@p2a.co>
Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 9:48 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: Support Dementia Awareness Bill

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Together we can save Alaskan lives,
Halli Kenoyer

y

AK 99901

Katy Giorgio

From: sid atwood <sidatwood@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 12:32 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: HB 308

This is a much needed bill supporting those with dementia. There are more people than one would think suffering from some type of this disease. It is one that many choose to ignore because of the embarrassment in situations. We need to remember the person that suffers is not to blame.

Sent from my iPhone

Katy Giorgio

From: seahome@alaskan.com
Sent: Monday, February 14, 2022 9:11 AM
To: House Health and Social Services
Cc: ebolling@alz.org; gwellman@alzalaska.org; kim@champneyconsulting.com
Subject: HB308: vigorous support for

Legislatures: Re: HB304

I strongly urge you to support and improve upon this bill which appears before you tomorrow.

As the caregiver for my wife, diagnosed with Dementia, I have become aware of the many issues involved in being able to be a conscientious, effective caregiver.

There are three issues which are not addressed in this bill which are fundamental to effective caregiving and are appropriate to be addressed in this bill.

1- Problems in the inconsistent honoring of a Durable Power Of Attorney by various institutions.

It is a fact that many doctor's and banking institutions do not honor the durable POA paper work. Doctors do not want to listen to or talk with the caregiver. Some banking institutions have rules that don't allow them to release certain financial information to the caregivers. This seems to be becoming more of a problem. One person in the group actually was told by her banking institution that they would not honor the POA she has because it "was too old". Another was told that while the POA would allow her to withdraw money, it would not allow her to get information about her spouses IRAs. It's not clear whether this is because of lack of education or knowledge or something else.

2- The need for financial help for family caregivers.

nowhere in this bill is there any mention of the need for funds that support the caregivers in their efforts to care well for the person they are caring for. It seems to be all about education which is great and might help but it doesn't address the need for financial support for those caregivers who are struggling to keep the person with dementia at home or to finance the increasing costs of residential facilities when that becomes necessary.

3-A need for recognition in this bill that continued caregiving at home is becoming a neccessity in some cases and is a more humane and loving manner to care for our loved ones.

Continuing caregiving at home is the only option that I and my wife consider reasonable and desirable. We do not have either the financial ability to pay for institutional care or the willingness to relegate her to institutional care. Home care is the only pracical means of providing a safe enviroment for us as elderly persons. This is COVID time. We have a rigorous Covid/ other disease prevention procedure here at home. I do not feel that institutional situations provide the necessary protections and safeguards needed to conscientiously care for my wife.

Please consider these addition as you discuss and pass this bill .

Dave McFadden

Anchorage, Ak 99503

Katy Giorgio

From: sharon whitewheeler <swhitewheeler@yahoo.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 12, 2022 1:03 PM
To: House Health and Social Services
Subject: HB 308

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in regard to House Bill 308.

Although, in principle, disseminating information to the public about dementia is not a bad thing, I recognize that by now most people in this country are aware of what dementia is and the toll it takes on caregiver's and their families. We have Maria Shriver, Ronald Reagan and Robin Williams and their families among just a few who have been affected by this horrid disease to thank for getting the word out to the world.

Dementia awareness is not what caregiver's and their families need. The money tied to this bill would, I believe, be better served assisting caregiver's. This issue is personal to me as I am caring for a family member. The costs associated with caregiving are enormous. Assisted living homes, for example, are out of reach for many families in Alaska as are the costs for in-home care. Using this money to, for example, encourage and assist non-profits to open and staff affordable assisted living homes would have a much greater impact on the lives of Alaskan families. Using this money to increase the number of respite beds throughout the state would have a much more positive impact on Alaskans than would be receiving information about dementia. Using this money to provide case management services to families whose loved one is experiencing dementia, again, would be money better spent.

Lastly, while working for the state as an assisted living home licensing specialist I had the opportunity to persuade Hope Community Resources to operate an assisted living home for seniors in Barrow. It was the first home opened and operated by them to strictly serve seniors experiencing dementia and physical disabilities. I only bring this up to illustrate that I recognized a need and reached out to a well-run non-profit to fill that need. If I could do that surely there are others, perhaps even you dear reader, who would have the imagination and courage to "think outside the box" to address the unmet needs of those Alaskan's and their families who are dealing with this awful, awful disease.

Sincerely,

Sharon White-Wheeler

