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To: Speaker Tina Kotek, Members of the Oregon House of Representatives

RE: Letter in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1, The State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in Oregon

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Dear Representatives,
We urge you to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 1 (SCR 1), the resolution in support of the State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in Oregon.

Every Oregonian is touched by Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia, directly or indirectly. Oregon must mount a coordinated effort to quell this public health crisis. The State Plan reflects professional expertise, personal experience and public input from across Oregon and is the foundation of a coordinated response by both public and private sector stakeholders to meet the needs of Oregonians with Alzheimer's, their families and the medical professionals who care for them.

Nearly 80,000 Oregonians currently live with Alzheimer's disease and this number will rise significantly in the next decade. Over 165,000 Oregonians currently provide unpaid care to loved ones with Alzheimer's – care worth over \$2.2 billion a year. Alzheimer's presents enormous emotional, physical, and financial challenges for families and stresses the healthcare system: Oregon must be prepared to respond to this public health crisis.

The State Plan will have a positive impact for all Oregonians, including not only people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers but also government entities. Early interventions with those with Alzheimer's and their families are effective as well as cost-effective. Implementation of this State Plan will improve care for people with Alzheimer's and their families, promote better medical care, and improve state services while reducing state costs.

A vote in favor of SCR 1 will show your support for the State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in Oregon and the hundreds of thousands of Oregon families impacted by this devastating disease.

Sincerely,



Jon Bartholomew
Public Policy Director
Alzheimer's Association Oregon Chapter