



Alzheimer's Public Health News

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Senate Passes BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act



On Wednesday, the United States Senate passed the [Building Our Largest Dementia \(BOLD\) Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act](#) (S. 2076/H.R. 4256). If enacted, this bipartisan legislation would authorize a major expansion of the Alzheimer's public health infrastructure across the country by enhancing state health department capacity, increasing data collection efforts, and establishing regional hubs to coordinate and continue public health interventions that address dementia.

Introduced in November 2017 by Senators Susan Collins (R-ME), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Tim Kaine (D-VA), the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act would have the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) establish centers of excellence to expand and promote the evidence base for effective population-based interventions to improve dementia outcomes. State, local and tribal public health departments would have the opportunity to obtain CDC funding to promote cognitive health and risk reduction, increase early detection and diagnosis, and better address the needs of caregivers. Just as significant, the legislation would improve collection, analysis and timely reporting of data on cognitive decline and caregiving related to Alzheimer's to inform future public health actions.

These collective investments in public health would significantly enhance the capacity of state and local public health departments to implement actions of the Healthy Brain Initiative's [State and Local Public Health Partnerships to Address Dementia: The 2018-2023 Road Map](#). Some of the anticipated outcomes from the BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act are reduced population risk for cognitive decline and cognitive impairment, prevention of avoidable hospitalizations, mitigation of health disparities, and improved access to caregiver support. With a flexible agenda of 25 actions, the Healthy Brain Initiative (HBI) Road Map is primed and ready to help public health departments prepare their communities and mitigate the future impacts of Alzheimer's and other dementias. Learn more about the [HBI Road Map](#) and the [BOLD Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act](#).

The Alzheimer's Association and its advocacy arm, the Alzheimer's Impact Movement (AIM), will continue work to advance this legislation through the House of Representatives.

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