

dramatic improvement in the lives of Americans, much better lives.

If this were available to my mother-in-law, perhaps she would have been able to live another 2, 3, 5 years without the onset of Alzheimer's. And what would that mean to the quality of her life as well as to her family's?

So let's assume that the research pushes back the onset of Alzheimer's by 5 years, so that in 2025 what would we see?

Well, for Medicare and Medicaid, we would see in the years 2025 to 2030 a 121-billion-dollar reduction in the cost to Medicare and Medicaid to your taxpayer dollars, and from 2025 to 2030—that is 10 years of the new treatments being in place—we would see a half-trillion-dollar reduction in the cost of Medicare and Medicaid.

Now, this isn't pie in the sky. This isn't just wishful, hopeful thinking and a prayer and a song. This is a real possibility. Those of you who have been reading the press or listening to the television news programs over the last year, you will note a significant change from hopelessness to hope. Yes, hope. There is real hope that we will be able to attack this debilitating dementia Alzheimer's, that we will be able to delay the onset and quite possibly stop it, to cure it.

Now, that may be off into the future, but we are now gaining an understanding because of the research that is being done on Alzheimer's and much of the research that was discussed earlier in the discussion of mental health programs and research that is going on by the United States military as they attack the problem of post-traumatic stress and brain damage from the men and women who have served in the recent wars.

All of that research is coming together with an understanding of how the human brain works, what the elements are that cause the damage of mental health, schizophrenia, and post-traumatic stress, as well as brain damage, perhaps for the football players in the NFL and beyond.

So here is what we are going to do. We are going to fight this year to increase this funding from beyond \$236 million to just over \$1 billion. We know it is a tough budget year. We know that the Republicans have been unable to even come to grips to put together a budget, let alone increase the appropriations.

But where could money be better spent than on research that is actually moving forward toward an understanding of what Alzheimer's is and how the brain is attacked, how we can stall—not yet reverse, but stall the onset of the damage that occurs as a result of Alzheimer's.

We have seen it. You have seen the stories. We know that drug treatments that were once thought to be ineffective, treatments that were done in the mid-1990s didn't work, or so they thought. Then some statisticians looked at those results of those drug

trials and noticed something really important. They noticed that while the overall program didn't seem to work, they noticed that there was a subset of patients who were being treated by that drug, and they noticed that that subset was the early onset of Alzheimer's, and what they noticed was that that drug seemed to push back, seemed to hold steady that onset of Alzheimer's. Whoa, it was a eureka moment that maybe using drugs of that type applied early in the process would result in the delay, the arresting of the Alzheimer's onset.

That is what we are talking about here. If we are able to invest this money in research, we can see the probability that there are a series of drugs that do have an effect on the onset of Alzheimer's and seem to delay that onset.

Each year that goes by, what is the effect for the individual, for the family of the individual?

It means their life will be better. It means that the kind of stress, strain, and financial cost that is put on a family with Alzheimer's will be arrested. It will be delayed. Not 1 year, maybe 2 years, maybe 3, maybe 5 years. And the cost is enormous.

As I said before, if we are able to do this increased research over the next 3, 4, 5 years, working on those series of drugs that now seem to have an effect, we will be able in the years 2025 to 2030 to save you, the taxpayers, and us, the appropriators of your tax money, over \$120 billion in the years 2025 to the year 2030. In 5 years beyond that, that 10-year period, a half trillion dollars.

So if you are worried about the deficit—and we all are—if you are worried about how we are going to put together a 5-year budget, which is what we do, then look at this investment. If you are worried about the effect of Alzheimer's in your family or on yourself, there are 435 of us in this House and another 100 over in the Senate. Listen, one-third of us are likely to die of Alzheimer's in the years ahead. So if you don't care about the family, you don't care about Americans, care about yourself. One-third of us are destined. If you happen to be a female, the odds are even greater.

So what is this all about?

Well, we are somehow grappling with the budget, the 5-year budget. We can't seem to get it together. Enormous chaos on the side of my Republican colleagues about how to do it. The appropriation process is underway and totally stalled out until at least May 15.

There is a solution. A small investment, a very small investment, and then we can look at the long-term deficit. Then we can be in a position to improve the lives of Americans.

Oh, by the way, the money is available. The money is available. In the budget and in the appropriations we are putting together, we are ramping up so that over the next 20 years, 25 years, we are going to spend a trillion dollars—a trillion dollars—on a brand-

new nuclear arms race. We are going to rebuild all of our nuclear bombs. We are going to develop new airplanes to deliver those bombs, new satellites, new rockets, new cruise missiles, new submarines. A trillion dollars.

Well, I have got a better place to spend some of that money. I have got a better place to spend it, where the lives of Americans will be significantly improved, where the stress on families throughout this nation will be less, where the budgets of this country will not be busted, where this curve, where this curve will be flattened, where we will not in the year 2050 spend over a trillion dollars a year, a trillion dollars a year caring for people who have Alzheimer's. Three-quarters of that money is your tax money.

You can go back here, 2020, and start spending a couple of hundred million dollars, a couple of hundred million dollars on research, on promising treatments for Alzheimer's, and then beginning in 2025, watch this curve begin to flatten out.

Now, for me and for many of us in this room, we are not going to be out here in 2025, but our children and grandchildren will be, and they will be caring for us unless we begin to make these investments now in research.

So in the next couple of weeks, the men and women in purple will be here in Washington, D.C., as they do every spring, advocating for Alzheimer's research, for the caregivers, and for the families, and we ought to be paying attention.

The money is in the budget somewhere. All we need to do is to find it, move it from a few nuclear weapons over to research, delay the expenditure of a new ballistic missile or intercontinental ballistic missile, and spend it on something that affects every American every day of this year and every day of the years in the future, and that is Alzheimer's.

It is a good investment. It is an investment in the quality of life. It is an investment in our effort to reduce the deficit, and it is an investment in America's future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DEFAZIO (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of personal business in district.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 59 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, April 13, 2016, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.