

MILWAUKEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Supervisor Felesia A. Martin - District 7

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Supervisor Martin Calls on Congress to Increase Funding for Older Americans Act and Alzheimer's Research in Federal Budget

MILWAUKEE – County Supervisor Felesia A. Martin is calling on Congress to increase funding for critical research and resources for older adults and people living with dementia in the 2022 federal budget.

"I am in full support of the Older Americans Act," said Supervisor Martin. "Our seniors have given the best of themselves during their active employment years and rely on Social Security, Medicare, and other benefits during the sunset years of their lives. Let us not let them down when they need us most. Let us strengthen their benefits to ensure they can have an active, high quality of life. Let us show our support and appreciation for their contributions to this wonderful American life we all enjoy."

President Joe Biden's proposed budget includes \$19.5 million to implement the <u>BOLD</u> <u>Infrastructure for Alzheimer's Act</u> at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for fiscal year 2022 and an increase of \$200 million for Alzheimer's disease and related dementias research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

While the increase in research funding is a positive step, the proposed funding falls short of the \$289 million increase advocates have been requesting from members of Congress. The full House of Representatives and the Senate Appropriations committee still have time to weigh in on this issue.

Supervisor Martin represents the 7th Supervisory District on the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors. She serves as Chair of the Health Equity, Human Needs and Strategic Planning Committee, and is a member of the Parks, Energy & Environment Committee and the Economic and Community Development Committee.