

AB-2689

Alzheimer's and
Dementia
Research
Voluntary Tax
Fund



Prepared by the
ELDERLY CARE
EVERYWHERE POLICY
TEAM



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Largest youth lobbying group for senior citizens and senior care in California.

Executive Summary

AB 2689, introduced by Assembly Member Bains and coauthored by Assembly Member Kalra during the 2023-2024 Regular Session of the California Legislature, seeks to amend Section 18766 of the Revenue and Taxation Code. This bill proposes an extension of the operation of the California Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Research Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund until January 1, 2030, with a potential further extension to 2032, provided that the fund meets its minimum annual contribution threshold of \$250,000.

The California Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Research Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund was initially established to allow taxpayers to designate a specified amount from their personal income tax return, in excess of their tax liability, to support Alzheimer's and related dementia research. These contributions are allocated to the State Department of Public Health, which awards grants to eligible programs under criteria established by the State Department of Public Health's Alzheimer's Disease Program.

The proposed extension of this fund is crucial for continuing research and development in the prevention, treatment, and understanding of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. Given the aging population in California, the impact of such research extends significantly to senior citizens, who are most susceptible to these conditions. Funding through taxpayer contributions ensures ongoing support for innovative programs that can lead to breakthroughs in care and potential cures, directly benefiting a significant portion of the state's senior population.

In summary, AB 2689 not only supports the fiscal sustainability of Alzheimer's and dementia research programs but also represents a continued commitment to addressing the growing impact of these diseases on California's senior citizens. The bill ensures that crucial research can continue without interruption, bolstering efforts to improve health outcomes for older adults and providing hope to many families affected by these debilitating conditions. This legislation reflects a proactive approach to public health and senior care, advocating for advancements that can significantly improve the quality of life for our elderly population.



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Our Position

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 104 (SCR-104) designates May 2024 as Older Americans Month in California, urging all Californians to recognize and treat older adults with compassion and respect. The resolution highlights the vital contributions of older adults to the community, including fostering inclusivity, diversity, and cultural competency. It emphasizes the importance of elder justice, ensuring the equitable treatment of older adults in all aspects of life. Additionally, SCR-104 recognizes the state's rapidly growing senior population, noting that the number of Californians aged 60 and over is projected to increase significantly by 2050. The resolution also acknowledges that people of color will constitute over half of California's senior population by 2035 and that women comprise most of this demographic.

Elderly Care Everywhere strongly supports SCR-104 because it aligns with our mission to advocate for seniors' health, welfare, and happiness. By officially recognizing May 2024 as Older Americans Month, SCR-104 promotes public awareness about the significance of older adults and the need for comprehensive services and activities that contribute to their well-being. Our organization believes that honoring seniors and addressing their needs is crucial for their dignity and quality of life. This resolution supports our goals of ensuring seniors receive the respect, recognition, and resources they deserve, enabling them to age with dignity and remain active, valued community members.

SCR-104 goes further by recognizing the critical role of older adults in fostering inclusivity and diversity within the state. The resolution emphasizes that elder justice ensures the proper and equitable treatment of older adults in all aspects of life. This aspect is fundamental to the values of Elderly Care Everywhere. This acknowledgment is significant as it underscores the need for policies and practices that protect seniors from discrimination and abuse, ensuring their rights are upheld in every facet of society. By highlighting these issues, SCR-104 encourages legislative and community actions aligned with our advocacy for a society that respects and supports its elderly members.

Moreover, SCR-104 acknowledges the demographic shifts within California's senior population, noting that people of color will make up over half of the senior population by 2035. This recognition is vital as it points to the need for culturally competent services catering to older adults' diverse backgrounds. Elderly Care Everywhere supports SCR-104 as it aligns with our commitment to promoting cultural competency in senior care services. We believe that recognizing the unique needs of a diverse senior population will lead to more effective and inclusive policies that ensure all older adults, regardless of their background, receive the support and respect they deserve. By backing SCR-104, we are advocating for a future where senior citizens are valued, and their contributions to society are celebrated, fostering a community where they can thrive.



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Letter of Support for AB-2689

The Honorable Steven Glazer, Chair
Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Support for AB 2689

Dear Senator Glazer and Members of the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee,

On behalf of Elderly Care Everywhere, I write in strong support of AB 2689, which extends the operation of the California Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Research Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund from January 1, 2030, to January 1, 2032. This extension is crucial for continuing support and funding for research on Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, which disproportionately affect the senior population in California.

California faces a growing challenge with Alzheimer's disease, with an estimated 690,000 residents currently living with the condition. This number is projected to rise significantly in the coming years, making continued research and funding essential for developing effective treatments and support systems for those affected. The California Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Research Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund plays a vital role in providing necessary resources for groundbreaking research and innovative programs aimed at combating this debilitating disease.

By extending the operation of this fund, AB 2689 ensures sustained financial support for ongoing and future research initiatives. This is particularly important as the state's senior population continues to grow, with the number of individuals aged 65 and older expected to nearly double by 2060. The research supported by this fund not only aims to find a cure but also seeks to improve the quality of life for seniors living with Alzheimer's and related dementias.

We strongly urge you to vote in favor of AB 2689 to ensure continued support for Alzheimer's disease and dementia research, which is critical for the well-being of California's seniors.

Sincerely,
Aakrisht Mehra
Founder/CEO
Elderly Care Everywhere



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About Elderly Care Everywhere

Elderly Care Everywhere is a transformative nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of senior citizens. Since its inception, the organization has positively impacted over 40,000 seniors through a variety of programs aimed at enhancing their quality of life.

Elderly Care Everywhere has been instrumental in alleviating hundreds of thousands of dollars in medical debt, ensuring that seniors have access to the healthcare they need without the burden of financial stress. With more than 20 chapters across the United States, the organization extends its reach and resources to numerous communities, providing support and advocacy on a national scale.

Beyond U.S. borders, Elderly Care Everywhere has established flood relief camps in India, showcasing its commitment to global humanitarian efforts. The organization's impactful work has been recognized by the government of New Delhi, further highlighting its significant contributions to senior care and welfare. Through these efforts, Elderly Care Everywhere continues to lead the way in senior advocacy, ensuring that the elderly are treated with dignity and respect worldwide.

Thank you for your support of SCR-104. If you have any questions, feel free to email us at connect@elderlycareeverywhere.org