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July 24, 2025

The Honorable Judy Chu  
2423 Rayburn House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Joe Wilson  
1436 Longworth House Office Building  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Chu and Congressman Wilson:

Stomach cancer is one of our nation's deadliest cancers. This year, over 30,000 Americans will be diagnosed with stomach cancer and only 36% of those patients will survive over five years. In addition to better awareness and understanding of stomach cancer, and research funding that will lead to new treatment discoveries, more tools and strategies are needed that will allow for prevention and early detection. We thank you for bringing awareness to this need through your introduction of the "Stomach Cancer Prevention and Early Detection Act". Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer (DDF) is pleased to offer its strong support of the legislation.

DDF is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness about stomach cancer, advancing funding for research, and providing education and support internationally to the stomach cancer research community, patients, families, and caregivers. DDF seeks as its ultimate goal to make the cure for stomach cancer a reality. We have a strong and growing national network of advocates who interact with Congress regularly as well as an active and dedicated Scientific and Medical Advisory Board that represents the best minds in the stomach cancer research community.

When DDF first started advocating for stomach cancer on Capitol Hill in 2013, there was very little awareness about this cancer, and research dollars were scarce. Over the years, thanks to our advocacy and the strong Congressional support we have received from you and your colleagues, stomach cancer has consistently been incorporated into the Peer Reviewed Cancer Research Program and congressional report language led to the creation in 2021 of the Program on the Origins of Gastroesophageal Cancers at the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Last spring, the NCI held a Think Tank on Advancing Gastric Cancer Prevention with a focus on testing and treating for *Helicobacter pylori*, a leading risk factor for stomach cancer. We are excited about the momentum behind stomach cancer research, prevention and early detection and the added urgency your legislation brings to this topic and look forward to working with you on next steps.

Thank you again for your tremendous leadership. We had nearly 200 advocates this year for our annual 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Stomach Cancer Capitol Hill Advocacy Day and are actively deploying our entire national grassroots network year-round. I hope you will consider joining DDF for a celebration of advocacy in Washington, DC during our next Advocacy Day on February 24, 2026. Megan Gordon Don, DDF policy and advocacy advisor, can be reached at [mgdon@mgdstrategies.com](mailto:mgdon@mgdstrategies.com) or (202) 246-8095 with questions and for future collaboration.

Sincerely,



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