

# The HEADACHE ACT

## Headache Education, Access, Diagnosis, and Care Health Equity Act



**HEADACHE  
ON THE HILL**

The HEADACHE Act aims to address the significant public health issue posed by migraine and headache disorders, which affect over 40 million Americans and result in an economic burden of \$78 billion annually in direct and indirect costs.

### WHAT WOULD THE HEADACHE ACT DO?

The HEADACHE Act creates a coordinated federal strategy to address this major public health issue by:

- Establishing the National Headache Disorders Initiative (NHDI) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.
- Improving access to care and expanding the clinical and research workforce specializing in headache disorders.
- Coordinating research and care efforts across federal programs, including the VA, DoD, NIH, CDC, and IHS.
- Enhancing federal data collection and epidemiological research to better understand disparities and improve care.
- Reducing stigma and increasing public awareness through education campaigns.
- Creating a federal Advisory Council with federal agency representatives and outside experts, including patient advocates, providers, and researchers.

### WHY IT MATTERS:

- There are over 200 types of headache disorders.
- Migraine is the leading cause of disability for young women in the U.S.
- 28% of adolescents experience recurring headache or migraine.
- Despite the burden, federal funding for headache disorders remains disproportionately low at just 0.2% of the NIH budget annually.

Contact: [Julienne Verdi](mailto:julienne.verdi@allianceforheadacheadvocacy.org)  
Executive Director, Alliance for Headache Disorders Advocacy

[julienne@allianceforheadacheadvocacy.org](mailto:julienne@allianceforheadacheadvocacy.org)  
(917) 273-0651  
[www.allianceforheadacheadvocacy.org](http://www.allianceforheadacheadvocacy.org)