

**\*\* Email Transmittal \*\***

February 19, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United State Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman, Senate Finance Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member, Senate Finance Committee  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairman and Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Committee, Senator Wyden and Senator Crapo,

We the undersigned organizations representing millions of members and supporters write to express our enthusiastic support for an urgent and historic confirmation of Attorney General Xavier Becerra as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. In the midst of a global pandemic following the deadliest year in U.S. history, we call on the U.S. Senate Finance committee to advance the confirmation of Attorney General Becerra to the full Senate for confirmation without hesitation. The people of the United States need AG Becerra, an outstanding leader, at the helm of the Department of Health and Human Services immediately.

As a twelve term Congressman and current California State Attorney General, Becerra has been a champion of expanding healthcare to more people, eliminating barriers to accessing care, and protecting patient's rights. He played a leading role in the construction and passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, resulting in over 20 million people in the United States gaining access to health care coverage. He has championed protections against discrimination of women, people who are LGBTQ+, and people of color in healthcare.

Attorney General Becerra has proven that he is willing to take on the healthcare industry in order to protect all people and our rights to quality, affordable, and accessible healthcare. He has challenged harmful practices such as the pharmaceutical industry's "pay for delay," which unnecessarily delayed the introduction of potentially life-saving generic medication. He has won major settlements over exorbitant prices and anti-competitive practices for example, Sutter Health, one of the largest healthcare chains in California. He sued Purdue Pharma and McKinsey & Co. for their roles in creating the national overdose crisis.

The people of the United States deserve a champion who will take on the healthcare industry and AG Becerra has proven that he is unafraid to stand up to corporate America in pursuit of justice and health equity for all patients.

As the head of a massive state agency in the largest state, AG Becerra has the experience of overseeing an agency larger than some federal departments. If confirmed, Xavier Becerra would be the first Latino to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, making his confirmation both critical and historic.

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As Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, AG Becerra would be an outstanding pick to direct the urgent task of overseeing the agency that will guide the nation out of this pandemic. Further, we are confident that he will be proactive in establishing a resilient public healthcare system to meet the future needs of the nation.

We strongly urge members of the Finance Committee to vote "yes" on this nomination, so that AG Becerra may be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. The people of the United States need a leader with extensive direct experience improving our nation's healthcare system, and one who is dedicated to ensuring we all have the health care coverage and services we need and deserve.

Sincerely,

**People's Action**

AFSCME

American Family Voices

American Federation of Teachers

Arkansas Community Organizations

Blue Future

Brain Mind Self Adaptability Institute

Brave New Films

Business Leaders for Health Care Transformation

California Alliance for Retired Americans

California Democratic Party Senior Caucus

California OneCare

California Progressive Alliance

CARA

Center for Coalfield Justice

Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement & Research

Center for Popular Democracy Action

Churches United For Fair Housing Action

Coalition on Human Needs

Common Defense

Communications Workers of America

Communities United

Connecticut Citizen Action Group (CCAG)

Criminalization of Poverty Project at the Institute for Policy Studies

DelACA (Delaware Alliance for Community Advancement)

Demand Progress

Equality California

Family Equality

Generation Progress

Hayward Area Democratic Club

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Health Access California  
Health Care for All - California  
Health Care for America Now  
Health Care Voter  
Healthcare Action Committee  
Healthcare for All Working Group, Sonoma County, CA  
Healthy California Now  
Hispanic Federation  
Hometown Action  
Indivisible  
Indivisible Healdsburg  
Inland Equity Partnership  
Iowa Citizens for Community Improvement  
Jane Addams Senior Caucus  
Justice for Migrant Women  
Justice Is Global  
Long Beach Area Peace Network  
Long Beach Medicare for All Coalition  
LULAC  
Maine People's Alliance  
Make the Road Nevada  
Michigan United  
Missouri Jobs with Justice  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Harm Reduction Coalition  
National Health Care for the Homeless Council  
National Partnership for Women & Families  
National Union of Healthcare Workers  
New American Leaders  
New Hampshire Youth Movement  
New Jersey Citizen Action  
ONE Northside  
OneAmerica  
OWL SacCap  
Physicians for a National Health Program, California chapter  
Progressive Democrats of America  
Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada  
Progressive Maryland  
Public Advocacy for Kids (PAK)  
Public Citizen  
R2H Action [Right to Health]  
Rights & Democracy NH  
Rights & Democracy VT  
River Valley Organizing

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San Francisco Gray Panthers  
Santa Clara County Single Payer Health Care Coalition  
Silver State Equality-Nevada  
Small Business for America's Future  
Social Security Works  
South Bay Progressive Alliance  
Students for Sensible Drug Policy  
The People's Lobby  
Therapists for Single Payer  
United Vision for Idaho  
University of Washington  
VOCAL-NY  
Voice for Refuge Action Fund  
Washington Community Action Network  
We All Rise  
Yolo Progressives  
Young Invincible