February 19, 2021

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

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Minority Leader  
United States 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 205010

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.
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
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
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