

January 21, 2020

The Honorable Ron Wyden Chairman Senate Finance Committee Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Mike Crapo Ranking Member Senate Finance Committee Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Wyden and Ranking Member Crapo:

The Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) would like to express its support for Xavier Becerra as the Biden Administration's nominee for the position of Secretary of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. HCAOA urges his swift confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

ACRP members are individuals working on research studies in humans or with materials from humans. With over 13,000 members in the United States, ACRP's diverse population work in a variety of practice settings, roles, and specialty areas, with a wide range of experience in the field. What's common about them all is their dedication and commitment to promoting excellence in clinical research.

President-Elect Biden made a wise choice in the selection of California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to lead the department at this time as the country continues to address the array of challenges the pandemic presents. During his twelve terms in Congress, Attorney General Becerra spent much of his time working on health-related issues impacting U.S. citizens as a member of the House Ways and Means Committee.

As a Congressman, Xavier Becerra was a staunch advocate for access to health care. ACRP members are actively engaged in the clinical research necessary to discover and improve health care treatment, devices, and pharmaceuticals, to include vaccines. Much work lays ahead and ACRP is committed to ensuring the clinical competency of all clinical research professions.

Attorney General Becerra brings his experience as an administrator having run the California Department of Justice since 2017. In this position he addressed an array of health and other matters that prepare him well to handle the significant challenges of running an agency as large and diverse as the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

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Finally, Attorney General Becerra brings to the agency knowledge of the disparities in access to health services in the U.S. He is well positioned to address these disparities. ACRP itself is undertaking efforts to produce a more diverse workforce and looks forward to working with the nominee to ensure the improving health of the nation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely

Jim Kremidas

Executive Director