

## NATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF SOCIAL SECURITY CLAIMANTS' REPRESENTATIVES

**ESTABLISHED 1979** 

January 21, 2021

The Honorable Ron Wyden Chairman Committee on Finance United States Senate Washington, DC 20519

The Honorable Michael Crapo Ranking Member Committee on Finance United States Senate Washington, DC 20519

## Dear Senators Wyden and Crapo:

The National Organization of Social Security Claimants' Representatives (NOSSCR) strongly supports the nomination of Xavier Becerra to be Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS.). NOSSCR is a specialized bar association for attorneys and advocates who represent Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) claimants throughout the adjudication process and in federal court. Founded in 1979, NOSSCR is a national organization with a current membership of over 2,500 members from the private and nonprofit sectors and is committed to the highest quality representation for claimants and beneficiaries. NOSSCR's mission is to advocate for improvements in Social Security disability programs and to ensure that individuals with disabilities applying for SSDI and SSI benefits have access to highly qualified representation and receive fair decisions.

As both Ranking Member and as a member of the House of Representative's Ways and Means Social Security Subcommittee, Attorney General Becerra championed important pieces of legislation affecting the lives of millions of beneficiaries of Social Security Disability, SSI, Medicare and Medicaid. NOSSCR awarded then Congressman Becerra our "Award for Excellence in Social Security Disability Advocacy." Attorney General Becerra understands beneficiaries' needs and the interaction between Social Security benefits, Medicare and Medicaid health insurance, and an individual's overall wellbeing.

As both California's Attorney General and as a former twelve-term Member of the House of Representatives, Attorney General Becerra will be ready to lead the DHHS on day one. Attorney General Becerra's experience and leadership will help the nation turn the corner on the COVID-19 epidemic while protecting and enhancing our nation's SSI and SSDI programs. NOSSCR enthusiastically supports Attorney General Becerra's nomination and calls for the Senate Finance Committee to move his confirmation forward without delay.

Sincerely,

Barbara Silverstone Executive Director

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