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Contact: Bobby Peña
916-730-5191
bpena@bp3.com

**LATINX PHYSICIANS OF CALIFORNIA CHAIRMAN RESPONDS TO NOMINATION OF
XAVIER BECERRA AS HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SECRETARY**

Sacramento, CA – On behalf of Latinx Physicians of California, the following is a statement from LPOC Board Chair Dr. José Alberto Arévalo:

“LPOC proudly and strongly supports President-Elect Joe Biden’s nomination of California Attorney General Xavier Becerra to be the next Health and Human Services (DHHS) Secretary.

“If confirmed, he will be the first Latino to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, which is comprised of over 80,000 employees with a budget of more than one trillion-dollars. He is undeniably the right choice to lead DHHS in this critical time as COVID-19 continues to overwhelm our nation and our Latinx communities.

“As California’s 33rd Attorney General and the first Latino to hold this position, he has effectively and fairly led the nation’s largest state-level Department of Justice. He has worked tirelessly to ensure that California’s health policies are consistently and equitably applied to achieve the highest access to quality health care possible for all Californians. He has also unswervingly worked to protect our state’s most vulnerable and underserved communities. As California’s Attorney General, he has been a leader in the defense of the Affordable Care Act.

“Xavier Becerra understands the intricacies facing our nation’s complex health care system and his vast experience and knowledge will be invaluable in helping lead our nation towards achieving an equitable and cutting-edge health care system.”

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About Latinx Physicians of California

Latinx Physicians of California was established in 2011 to address not only the needs and concerns of Latinx physicians, but to serve as an advocate for quality health for our patients across California. LPOC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit whose goal is to support Latinx physicians, improve Latinx health, and help solve major healthcare challenges facing our State.

A member-based organization, LPOC works to ensure that California has an ethnically appropriate physician and healthcare provider base in California, one that understands and reflects the population of our diverse state. The organization works closely with Latinx college and medical student organizations to help support our future Latinx physician workforce.