

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

November 29, 2020

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
President-Elect of the United States  
Biden-Harris Transition  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President-Elect Biden:

As members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, we wish to commend you on your efforts to ensure that your Cabinet reflects the diversity of our nation. Your recent nomination of Alejandro Mayorkas, the first Latino and first immigrant to be nominated for the position of Secretary of Homeland Security, reflects your commitment to these efforts. This is a good start in ensuring that Latinos, the largest minority group in the United States, are more fairly represented in our nation's government.

According to the Pew Research Center, Latinos constitute 18 percent of the U.S. population and the diversity of the Latino population in itself is incredibly varied, with Mexican-Americans making up 62.3 percent of the total Latino population. As you continue to finalize your nominees, we write to restate our strong support for the first Democratic Hispanic woman elected state governor in U.S. history, Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, as Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

For more than 30 years, Governor Lujan Grisham has worked tirelessly to improve health care access and quality for New Mexicans and all Americans. The governor's extensive record in public service and public health is a national model for leadership. Early in her career, Governor Lujan Grisham served as the New Mexico Secretary of Health and helped to expand school-based health centers and oversaw an increase in childhood vaccination rates. As a member of Congress, she spearheaded policy development to improve the health and livelihoods of American families, with a particular focus on health equity.

As Governor, she has worked tirelessly to ensure New Mexicans have access to affordable, quality health care, enshrining the Affordable Care Act's consumer protection measures in New Mexico state law in one of her first acts as governor and has supported increasing health care providers in rural New Mexico. Under her leadership, New Mexico reduced prescription drug costs, including capping payments on insulin at \$25. Additionally, New Mexico is one of the only states to make all COVID-19 testing free for all New Mexicans, Medicaid rates were increased to cover Medicaid patients and frontline childcare workers have complete COVID-19 coverage and no out of pocket costs for COVID-19 care.

Governor Lujan Grisham is an extraordinary leader. She has the vision and drive to see through large projects and effectively lead large organizations; and brings the necessary skills to serve our country as Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Again, we are eager to work with you to promote our shared goals of diversity and ensuring the most qualified individuals have the opportunity to serve Americans.

Sincerely,



Catherine Cortez Masto  
Member of Congress



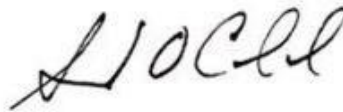
Bob Menendez  
Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar  
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress



Gil Cisneros  
Member of Congress



Lou Correa  
Member of Congress



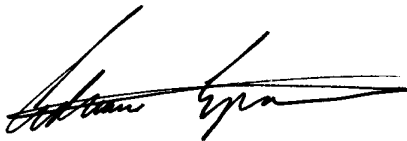
Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar  
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



Ruben Gallego  
Member of Congress




Sylvia García  
Member of Congress



Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress



Raúl Grijalva  
Member of Congress



Teresa Leger Fernández  
Member of Congress-elect



Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Luján  
Member of Congress



Debbie Mucarsel-Powell  
Member of Congress



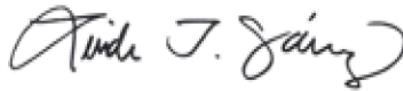
Grace Napolitano  
Member of Congress



Lucille Roybal-Allard  
Member of Congress



Raúl Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



Linda Sánchez  
Member of Congress



Darren Soto  
Member of Congress



Norma Torres  
Member of Congress



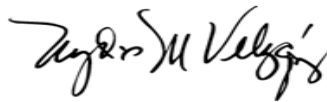
Xochitl Torres Small  
Member of Congress



Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress



Nydia Velázquez  
Member of Congress