



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 8, 2021

Email: media@cchfreedom.org

CCHF Issues Letter to U.S. Senate Leadership Opposing Becerra Confirmation

Lack of Health Care Expertise, Alarming Record of Government Encroachments on Individual and Religious Liberties Underscore Becerra's Threat to Doctor and Patient Freedom

ST. PAUL, MN— In anticipation of a Senate vote, **Citizens' Council for Health Freedom** issued an urgent plea to the leadership of the United States Senate, speaking out against the nomination of California Attorney General Xavier Becerra for Secretary of Health and Human Services. In her March 4 letter, **CCHF President and Co-Founder Twila Brase** described Becerra's disturbing record of exploiting state and federal medical laws to legally persecute the religious and individual liberties of both patients and physicians and urged Senate leadership to encourage its members to vote against his confirmation.

*"For all the talk about the dire seriousness of the coronavirus threat, **President Biden's decision to nominate someone with zero experience in health care to lead the Department of Health and Human Services during a pandemic suggests his intentions may be more about politics than public health**," asserted Brase. "While Mr. Becerra's radical support of dangerous socialized medicine and Medicare-for-all proposals are certain to appease liberal political constituencies, his stunning lack of experience in either the practice of medicine or the health care industry more generally invites a great deal of skepticism about whether he truly merits this position."*

Furthermore, Brase pointed to Becerra's disturbing record as California Attorney General in which **he punitively pursued legal actions against religious groups and their conscience protections**. *"While Mr. Becerra may claim he 'never sued any nuns,' I would invite senators to ask the Little Sisters of the Poor if the untold sums of charitable dollars and years of time they lost in court because of Mr. Becerra's relentless attacks are merely figments of their imagination. While any competent constitutional jurist, health policy expert, or even a medical doctor would be repulsed by the idea of forcing a religious group to provide abortifacients and contraceptives against its beliefs, Mr. Becerra showed no hesitation in wasting his state's taxpayer dollars to pursue exactly such unethical litigation in court."*

"Moreover," Brase continued, "Mr. Becerra's past efforts to circumvent the First Amendment by simply inventing a new class of 'professional speech' designed to grant the government unfettered power to regulate the conversation between a doctor and his patients should disqualify him from leading the Department of Health and Human Services. Such an affront to free speech subverts a long-held civic value cherished by most Americans."

"If the U.S. Senate votes to confirm President Biden's nomination of Xavier Becerra, it will put the rights, consciences, freedoms, and health outcomes of millions of American in jeopardy," concluded Brase in the letter.

###