## Congress of the United States Washington, VC 20515

February 8, 2023

The Honorable Xavier Becerra Secretary Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue Washington, DC 20201

## Dear Secretary Becerra,

As members of the Texas congressional delegation representing the second largest and third fastest growing state in the nation, we are emboldened that the population and demographic trends in our state reflect the shared belief that Texas is a place of opportunity that encourages people to do big things. Nowhere is that shared belief better captured than the Texas Medical Center (TMC).

TMC is the largest medical center in the world sitting on more than 1,400 acres with 10 million annual patient encounters, 11,000 patient beds, and a workforce of 120,000. TMC is the beating heart of Houston, the fourth largest and most diverse city in the nation. TMC generates \$25 billion annually, making it the eighth largest business district in the US.

TMC has invested \$200 million in the TMC Innovation Factory to support entrepreneur and early-stage life science companies since its inception in 2015. Over 300 companies have participated in the TMC Innovation accelerator and JLABS@TMC and those companies have raised over \$5.2 billion.

Opening in Q4 2023, TMC Helix Park is a world-class life science campus that will unite the best minds in medicine, science, academia, and commerce to advance new research breakthroughs. The visionary 37-acre campus with 6 million developed square feet, will include shared and proprietary research centers, multidisciplinary labs, healthcare institutions, venture suite, a hotel and conference center, restaurants/retail and a unique double-helix green space for the community. The new campus will generate \$5.4 billion in economic impact annually for the State of Texas.

The numbers speak for themselves, but to fully appreciate the vastness of the TMC and the wealth of innovation, discovery and advancement taking place there, you must step foot on the campus. We would like to invite you and your leadership team to Houston at your earliest opportunity to share the TMC story and vision. We believe it aligns seamlessly with the mission of ARPA-H and would provide an ideal and ready-made ecosystem to ensure the agency's future success.

Please let us know when you and your team might be available for a visit to the TMC as we would like to host you for a site visit during the upcoming Presidents Day recess. We appreciate your consideration and are grateful for your service to the country.

## Sincerely,

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Al Green Member of Congress Shirt guir

Sylvia R. Garcia Member of Congress

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Brian Babin, D.D.S. Member of Congress Wesley Hunt Member of Congress Randy Weber Member of Congress

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Lizzie Fletcher Member of Congress Morgan Luttrell Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee Member of Congress