

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 6, 2022

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary of U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra,

As Members of Congress from Texas and as strong supporters of the Administration's efforts to create the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H), we write to request that as you determine where the agency will be located, you strongly consider the State of Texas.

Recent advances in biomedical and health sciences—from immunotherapy as a cancer treatment, to the highly effective COVID-19 vaccines—demonstrate the strengths and successes of the U.S. biomedical enterprise. Such advances present an opportunity to revolutionize how to prevent, treat, and even cure a range of diseases including cancer, infectious diseases, Alzheimer's disease, and many others that together affect a significant number of Americans. We agree that the creation of ARPA-H will be an integral component of this effort and have been vocal supporters of its creation since it was announced by President Biden.

In March, you announced that ARPA-H would be part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), but that the physical location would not be at the agency's campus in Maryland. We recognize this as an opportunity to leverage the existing medical research and development occurring in states across the country, and Texas has the existing infrastructure and expertise to ensure this new agency's success.

Texas is home to multiple world-class medical facilities including the largest medical center in the world, the largest military medical complex in the nation, and the only Biosafety Level 4 (BSL-4) lab co-located with a national primate center. Texas is well positioned to lead the way in medical innovation and stands ready to put its best and brightest minds in biotech research to work solving our biggest and most complex health care problems.

As you consider the location of the physical location for ARPA-H and continue to work to establish this new agency and begin its vital work finding breakthrough treatments, we urge you to consider Texas as its new home. We stand ready to work with you in any way possible to begin this important work.

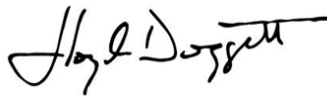
Sincerely,



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress

/S/

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress



Vincente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress