Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 17, 2020

The Honorable Alex Azar Secretary Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201 The Honorable Robert Kadlec Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Azar and Assistant Secretary Kadlec:

We write with an urgent request from the State of New Mexico to fulfill Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham's request for our state's full allotment of personal protective equipment (PPE) for health care providers.

We understand that New Mexico received 25% of its allotment from the strategic national stockpile yesterday, but it is critical to ensure that New Mexico continues to have sufficient PPE supplies.

We strongly urge you to release New Mexico's full allotment of PPE and work with the state to find other sources to help replenish their supplies. We believe this request is consistent with the treatment received by other states and any action you take now will help our state as confirmed coronavirus cases continue to mount.

We appreciate your agency's efforts to date to assist New Mexico during the novel coronavirus pandemic and we look forward to your prompt action on this request. If you have any questions about this request please do not hesitate to contact us or the New Mexico Department of Health.

Sincerely,

/s/ Tom Udall United States Senator <u>/s/ Martin Heinrich</u> United States Senator

<u>/s/ Ben Ray Luján</u> United States Representative

/s/ Deb Haaland United States Representative

/s/ Xochitl Torres Small United States Representative