

NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN
44TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA
WWW.BARRAGAN.HOUSE.GOV
FACEBOOK.COM/CONGRESSWOMANBARRAGAN
TWITTER: @REPBARRAGAN



WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1030 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-8220

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
SUBCOMMITTEES:
HEALTH
ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE
ENERGY

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
SUBCOMMITTEES:
TRANSPORTATION AND MARITIME SECURITY
OVERSIGHT, MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC CAUCUS
2ND VICE CHAIR

PORTS CAUCUS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

DISTRICT OFFICES:
302 W. FIFTH STREET, SUITE 201
SAN PEDRO, CA 90731
(310) 831-1799

701 E. CARSON STREET
CARSON, CA 90745

8650 CALIFORNIA AVENUE
SOUTH GATE, CA 90280

205 S WILLOWBROOK AVENUE
COMPTON, CA 90220

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
H-232, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
H-204, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Minority Leader
United States Senate
S-220, U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20510

May 7, 2020

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Schumer,

As you consider legislative priorities in any upcoming stimulus package to address the COVID-19 crisis, I strongly urge you to not only include robust funding for community health centers, but also for federally qualified health center look-alikes.

Look-alikes were established to increase access to care for medically underserved communities, regardless of an individual's ability to pay, and are currently on the frontlines of the battle against COVID-19. However, while look-alikes meet the requirements of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Health Center Program, they do not receive program funding, even though they are operating at a similar capacity to those that do.

Despite Congress passing \$2 trillion in funding in the CARES Act, look-alike clinics still do not have the resources they require to care for some of the most vulnerable people in our communities. Providers in these clinics are continuing to see patients without adequate supplies and protective equipment. Additionally, because there is a reduction in non-emergency visits,

these clinics are also experiencing a severe decline in their revenues. This has strained their budgets, and could result in clinics having to reduce staff at a time when this nation cannot afford a shortage of healthcare workers.

As we continue to face COVID-19, we must stabilize our healthcare system, and no longer continue to overlook the thousands of providers and professionals nationwide that are facing this pandemic alone. During this time of crisis, Americans must be able to turn to healthcare providers solely focused on community wellness but are instead trusting their lives with potentially exposed professionals faced with financial uncertainty.

Sincerely,



Nanette Diaz Barragán

Member of Congress