



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

The Honorable Jan Schakowsky
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Schakowsky:

I appreciate our exchange during the Committee on Energy and Commerce's hearing on the COVID-19 outbreak about the affordability and accessibility of a vaccine.

I agree with you that any vaccine should be accessible to all Americans and that affordability should not be a barrier. I write to let you know that we are working with the private sector to develop and test a COVID-19 vaccine. Government scientists invented some of the vaccine's critical aspects and, as part of any agreement with our private sector partners, we intend to work with them to ensure the price that they charge the government for the vaccine is affordable for taxpayers and patients.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue at such an important time for our nation's public health. I hope that we can partner on this and other matters as we work to protect the health of millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex M. Azar II".

Alex M. Azar II