WASHINGTON, D.C.— Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and senior member of the Ways and Means Committee, released the following statement responding to President Barack Obama's address to a joint session of Congress tonight:

"Tonight President Obama laid out a clear and concise vision for America's economic recovery and a new era of responsibility in government," Rep. Becerra said. **"The president made clear that we can not, should not, and will not wait to confront the pressing challenges facing our nation from healthcare reform to education access to tax reform. Together, with the president's bold leadership, I am confident that we will overcome this crisis and emerge stronger and more united than we were before."**

- Click here to read President Obama's complete speech.