

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 the President's State of the Union address:

“The President could not have been clearer—our economy can not fully recover and our fiscal house will not be in order until those Americans who seek work can find it. By boosting small businesses, investing in our country’s infrastructure and providing quality, affordable health care to working families we will reduce long-term deficits and set the conditions for a sustained economic recovery. The House has acted by passing a robust job creation package, and we will work with the Senate to get this job done.

A year ago the President walked into the White House with an economy in shambles and a middle class that has been working harder, but falling further behind. The previous administration drove us into the ditch with reckless policies that increased deficit spending, eliminated financial regulations and ignored long-term problems. President Obama has worked with Congress to right the ship, change course and deliver a better future for all Americans. We have made steady progress, but there is much more work to be done in 2010.”