RANKING MEMBER BECERRA CALLS OUT REPUBLICAN ‘PAY CHINA FIRST’ PLAN

WASHINGTON, DC—On Tuesday, Representative Tom McClintock (CA-4) introduced H.R. 421, legislation that would require the Treasury Department to pay back public debt to foreign governments and other such lenders when the debt ceiling is reached, forcing cuts to Social Security benefits. Today Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31), Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Social Security, released the following statement:

“Hard to believe, but true: members of the new Republican majority have introduced legislation that rips the hard earned Social Security benefits out of the hands of seniors, widows and disabled workers—and hands them over to creditors like China. This ‘Pay China First’ plan would treat retired American workers as second class citizens in line behind foreign lenders even though Social Security had nothing to do with the nation's $14 trillion debt. Working Americans want us to focus on cutting wasteful spending—and keep our hands off of their hard earned benefits.”