

CONCERNED
WOMEN *for* AMERICA

October 9, 2019

The Honorable Alex M. Azar II
Secretary of Health and Human Services
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Ave SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Azar,

On behalf of our hundreds of thousands of members, we thank you for your exemplary leadership at the 74th United Nations General Assembly. What a joy to see the United States lead the world by example in the defense of life with the Joint Statement on Universal Health Coverage.

We are grateful for your defense of life, and that under your leadership and alongside Secretary Pompeo, twenty countries joined the United States to declare there is no international right to abortion and that terms related to abortion, such as “sexual and reproductive health and rights” (SRH), have no place in UN documents. We are grateful that the administration has declared that the UN should not pressure countries to legalize abortion and that countries are sovereign and able to make their own laws in this regard.

This is an historic moment as the U.S. highlights the critical need to defend life and leads a coalition of nations to confront the international promotion of abortion.

Mr. Secretary, your address on behalf of the U.S. to the UN High Level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage was inspiring, and your conviction evident. We greatly appreciate your statement that, “Healthcare exists to improve health and preserve human life—the universal goal we all share”. As you stated, the promotion of abortion as an international right undercuts the mission of addressing real healthcare needs, and this is exactly the kind of leadership that the U.S., and the world, needs.

Sincerely,

Penny Young Nance
CEO and President
Concerned Women for America

Shea Garrison, Ph.D.
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