



**For Immediate Release**  
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**Contact:** David Blank 202-637-5275 or [dblank@retiredamericans.org](mailto:dblank@retiredamericans.org)

## **Retirees Troubled by Choice of Alex Azar to Lead HHS**

### ***Trump appears to be putting a fox in charge of the henhouse***

*The following statement was issued by Richard Fiesta, Executive Director of the Alliance for Retired Americans, regarding the announcement that President Donald Trump has nominated Alex Azar, a former pharmaceutical executive, to serve as his next Health and Human Services secretary.*

“Prescription drug costs are the top driver behind high medical costs in this country, hurting retirees and all consumers. By nominating a drug corporation insider to lead the Department of Health and Human Services, President Trump appears to be putting a fox in charge of the henhouse.

“Congress must ask tough questions of this nominee during the confirmation process. In particular, Mr. Azar should be asked whether he supports giving Medicare the ability to negotiate drug prices, the way that Medicaid and the Veterans Administration do today.”

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The Alliance for Retired Americans is a national organization that advocates for the rights and well-being of over 4.4 million retirees and their families. @activeretirees [www.retiredamericans.org](http://www.retiredamericans.org)