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News Release - 1989-11-02

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news release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2 November 1989

WASHINGTON--U.S. Rep Kika de la Garza praised the appointment yesterday of Dr. Antonia C. Novello to be the next Surgeon General of the United States.

De la Garza said "We applaud the President for his insightful choice and Dr. Novello appears to be immensely qualified to assume the duties of this nation's chief medical officer."

For more than 10 years, Dr. Novello has held a number of posts within the prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH). Since April of 1986, Dr. Novello has been the Deputy Director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development which is part of the NIH complex.

Prior to her affiliation with NIH she maintained a private medical practice in general pediatrics in the Washington area. She maintains an academic appointment as Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C. Dr. Novello was born in Fajardo, Puerto Rico and resides with her husband in Washington.

Rep de la Garza expressed his enthusiasm over Dr. Novello's appointment by saying "The President has chosen well; Dr. Novello will bring strong medical credentials to this post drawing on her practicing experience at the National Institutes of Health."

"At any given time our nation will face health problems which need to be addressed," de la Garza said, "And Dr. Novello's background gives us every reason to believe that she will bring with her a deep compassion for the sick and for those who endure suffering."

The U.S. Senate will soon begin confirmation hearings on Dr. Novello's appointment and must vote to give final approval before she assumes her responsibilities as U.S. Surgeon General.

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