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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

Kouan L. Daves, Chief Coursel and Staff Director

June 7, 2018

## VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for upholding your commitment to farmers and renewable fuels and rejecting a bad deal that would have undermined your promise to uphold the law that calls for 15 billion gallons of ethanol to be blended into our fuel supply. I appreciate it and so do the farmers in Iowa and at least 14 other states.

However, I write to you today regarding the EB-5 program. As I mentioned to you yesterday afternoon, certain EB-5 interest groups are telling investors they have "bought off the White House" and that your Administration will never allow the EB-5 regulations to take effect. These comments are very disturbing, and undermine the American people's faith in your ability to restore integrity to our immigration system.

For years, I have watched as the EB-5 program has become riddled with fraud and has serious vulnerabilities that present real national security concerns. One of Congress's core purposes in creating this program—to direct investment to rural and high unemployment areas that struggle to obtain capital and create jobs—has been eroded due to the abusive gerrymandering of economic development incentives by big moneyed Manhattan interests. There are pending regulations which would end this abuse. I have written to Secretary Nielsen, twice, urging her to finalize these changes. To date, nothing has been done. It is my sincere hope that members of your administration have not been influenced by moneyed EB-5 interests, and are not delaying regulations at their behest.

I ask that you please encourage finalization of these changes to the EB-5 Regional Center Program. These measures are absolutely critical to restore integrity to our nation's immigration system. The people who elected you expect these changes so their citizenship isn't being sold so cheaply. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Charles E. Grassley