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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

February 26, 2013

Bruce Gjovig, CEO  
UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center  
4200 James Ray Drive  
Grand Forks, ND 58203

**RE: Support of Amendment to the UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center**

Dear Mr. Gjovig:

It is my pleasure to provide a letter of support to the UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center to expand your EB-5 Regional Center designation to include the entire state of Minnesota by adding the remaining 67 contiguous counties to the current geographic area of focus. This expansion would also include five additional industry sectors and will change the name the UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center to the "North Dakota/Minnesota EB-5 Regional Center" under the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program through the U.S. Immigration and Citizen Services (USCIS).

Despite recent growth in our region, several cities throughout Minnesota and North Dakota have experienced some levels of unemployment never seen before. This is a rural area of the country that has been stressed for decades by outmigration and loss of jobs. Foreign Direct Investment under the EB-5 Immigration Investor Pilot Program will help turn the tide of high and steady outmigration that has resulted in low population in rural areas.

As the region faces economic hardships, it is imperative that local municipalities, counties, government, and the private sector work together toward stimulating the local economy and bringing jobs to the unemployed and attracting new businesses to locate in our region.

It is my opinion that the USCIS objectives for the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program will be well met with the approval of the UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center amendment.

Sincerely,



Collin C. Peterson, MN 07  
Member of Congress

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