



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*

Jack Dalrymple  
*Governor*

February 6, 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:

I support the UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center's efforts to amend their existing 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; include five additional industry sectors; and to change the name of 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 & Citizenship Services (USCIS).


Our state would greatly benefit from foreign investment and new jobs from the EB-5 program. While North Dakota has experienced economic growth over the past few years, the manufacturing sector of our economy is feeling the effects of the national recession. Additionally, Minot and Devils Lake have both experienced disastrous flooding in recent years. This flooding, coupled with the increased population in the western part of a state, has left North Dakota in a serious housing shortage.

The EB-5 program will help our state's entrepreneurs and economic developers secure the vital investment for employment growth. The UND Center for Innovation Foundation Regional Center is well positioned to continue to lead this effort as they have been successfully working with entrepreneurs and angel investors for over 25 years.

Through amending the existing Regional Center designation to include these new industry sectors, an opportunity exists to allow the EB-5 Regional Center to foster investment in job-creating ventures in North Dakota and Minnesota thus providing an economic stimulus for the entire region. This is a program ideal for rural states like North Dakota.

We fully support the UND Center for Innovation Foundation's efforts to amend their existing EB-5 Regional Center designation.

Sincerely,

  
Jack Dalrymple  
Governor

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