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Cc: "Lofy, Bill" <Bill.Lofy@state.vt.us>

Subject: VT visa investment initiative

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Folks,

At a meeting yesterday between Governor-elect Shumlin and Bill Stenger, they had a very positive and exciting conversation about the additional potential of the EB-5 visa program for Vermont. To make a long story short, at the end of the meeting, Peter requested that Bill work with Lawrence Miller, Chuck Ross, and Emerson Lynn to develop an aggressive initiative for Vermont to maximize the potential of EB-5 investments in our state. Bill agreed. I believe Peter has reached out to Emerson by now. Lawrence would likely want to involve Pat Powden, and you may want to bring in some other good minds or potential key players. There may be people at ACCD or Ag that can be of assistance.

The idea is to have an initiative ready to include in Peter's inaugural speech. Bill has a good understanding of the potential of this program and knows what Peter is thinking, including an agricultural capital and an economic development capital pool component. Peter is willing to do everything in his power to maximize the potential of the EB5 visa investment program. We are counting on you to move quickly to develop the plan to do so. It would be helpful to be as quiet as possible about this effort for now, as long as that doesn't hold you back from your mission. It probably makes sense for Lawrence to be the central organizer of your group, and he can update the Governor-elect weekly on your progress.

On behalf of Governor-elect Shumlin, thanks so much for your help. Let me know if you have any questions or if I can be of assistance.

--- Jeb

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