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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

May 20, 2025

The Honorable Peter Welch
United States Senate
124 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Sen. Welch and Ranking Member Durbin:

I received the letter from the Committee's minority members requesting a hearing on the Trump administration's alleged violations of illegal aliens' "right to due process."

When your party was in the majority, this Committee held no hearings to address how the Biden-Harris administration allowed millions of illegal immigrants to violate the process for entering our country lawfully. After years of indifference, your party's newfound belief in the importance of rigorous adherence to "process" is puzzling.

Your letter specifically mentioned the "mistaken" deportation of Kilmar Armando Ábrego García, a suspected MS-13 member, human trafficker, and domestic abuser who was ordered to be deported by an immigration judge in the past. My Committee staff already arranged and hosted a bipartisan briefing and Q&A session with the Department of Homeland Security on this matter. That briefing comprehensively covered García's withholding order, his apparent gang affiliation and criminal activities, and his deportation. A hearing is unlikely to reveal any new information about the García case.

Any request for a hearing on "process" is wholly inadequate unless it includes immigration processes in general. It must encompass the Biden-Harris administration's total failure to follow and enforce processes mandated by our immigration laws. It would also have to address how various processes the Biden-Harris administration abused—such as the arbitrary parole process, the exploited asylum process, and the lengthy deportation process—failed to deter and even incentivized unlawful entry, allowing foreign criminals to attack and murder American citizens.

Sincerely,



Chairman Charles E. Grassley
Senate Judiciary Committee