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## United States Senate

CHARLES E. GRASSLEY PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE EMERITUS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1501

April 12, 2023

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The Honorable Joseph R. Biden President of the United States 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

One year ago on April 12, 2022, you announced the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) would issue an emergency waiver to allow for the summertime sale of E15. At that time, Russia had recently begun the unprovoked invasion of Ukraine. The United States joined its global partners in denying the Russian Federation its fundamental economic resource, energy, through banning Russian oil imports.

This along with a combination of supply chain disruptions and inflation led to record high gas prices last year. As you put it, E15 is one solution, "to help deny Putin the ability to weaponized his energy resources against American families."

I write today to urge you to once again issue an emergency waiver to allow for the summertime sale of E15, extending the Reid vapor pressure (RVP) waiver from June 1 through September 15. Today, the United States continues to feel the energy strain that Russia has caused alongside the most recent announcement from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries of cutting one million barrels a day in production. Gas prices are rising and continue to strain the budgets of Iowa families.

The summertime sale of E15 last year supported farmers, created and sustained jobs, reduced our reliance on foreign oil, and gave consumers a choice, therefore, better prices at the pump. This is as true today as it was one year ago, and I call on your Administration to continue these efforts as you did last year.

While Russia continues efforts to weaponize its energy resources, and the OPEC cartel artificially manipulates supply markets, biofuels such as ethanol give America another tool in the effort for energy independence. This tool is multiplied in higher blends such as E15, E30, and E85. Additionally, higher blends of biofuels help lower costs for American families at the pump. Recent reports show that the national average for E15 is \$0.16 cheaper per gallon than gasoline. This would lead to hundreds of dollars in savings for American families and it will come to no cost to federal taxpayers.

RANKING MEMBER BUDGET Committee Assignments: JUDICIARY FINANCE AGRICULTURE

Co-Chairman CAUCUS ON INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS CONTROL Thank you for your swift consideration on this request to harness the strength of American agriculture to fight for American energy independence. Just as you did last year, I again urge you to allow for summertime sales of E15.

Sincerely,

Chuck Granday

Chuck Grassley U.S. Senator