

STATE OF KANSAS

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Kansas State Senate Utilities Committee
Chairman Pat Apple

HCR5014-Resolution in Support of the Keystone Pipeline
April 13, 2014

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to testify as a proponent of this resolution, and offer a few comments, as follows.

Keystone XL will be critical to improving American energy security and boosting our economy. The project will support over 42,100 jobs during the construction phase and will generate over \$5 billion in economic activity, including \$2.05 billion in worker salaries. For local governments along the pipeline corridor, \$65 million in tax revenue will help fund necessary infrastructure projects, education and medical services.

The project offers the most efficient, safest and least intrusive method for transporting Canadian and Bakken crude to markets in the Gulf Coast region. Alternative transport methods – namely rail and barge – will require significantly more displacement of land and result in greater energy use for transportation. Furthermore, the likelihood of an incident leading to a release or spill of crude oil is much lower for pipelines than other transport methods. For all these reasons, pipelines carry nearly two-thirds of the oil and petroleum products transported domestically.

The State Department's Environmental Impact Statement concludes that rail and barge alternatives are still economically viable given the strong demand for heavy crude among Gulf Coast refineries. Even with these less attractive alternatives, rejecting Keystone XL will not eliminate the demand for heavy oil transport. Nor will rejecting the project deter the production of Canadian oil sands.

With an additional 57 mitigation measures, Keystone XL is far and away the best transport method available. By supporting domestic production and oil imports from our ally Canada, instead of politically unstable countries, we will strengthen both our national security and energy security. Access to affordable, stable supplies of petroleum remains one of the most vital components for a growing economy.

We believe that construction of the Keystone XL pipeline is in the best interest of Kansans and all Americans. We respectfully request that the State Department expeditiously finalize all reviews and ultimately grant TransCanada the Presidential Permit necessary to begin building the pipeline.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis Hedke", written in a cursive style.

Representative Dennis Hedke
Chairman-Energy and Environment Committee
District 99th