

House Concurrent Resolution No. 5014

By Committee on Energy and Environment

3-8

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the Department of State and
2 the White House to approve the Presidential Permit application
3 allowing the construction and operation of the TransCanada Keystone
4 XL Pipeline between the United States and Canada in order to
5 strengthen United States energy security, to provide for critical
6 pipeline infrastructure, to achieve North American energy
7 independence and to stimulate the American economy and create jobs.

8 WHEREAS, The United States accounts for 20% of world energy
9 consumption, which makes it the world's largest petroleum consumer.
10 The United States consumes more than 18 million barrels of oil each day,
11 with forecasts indicating this will not change for decades. Current imports
12 amount to more than eight million barrels each day which is
13 approximately 50% of the requirements of the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, Even with new technology, oil discoveries, alternative
15 fuels and conservation efforts, the United States will remain dependent on
16 imported energy for decades to come. A secure supply of crude oil is not
17 only needed for Americans to continue to heat their homes, cook their
18 food and drive their vehicles, but to enable the United States economy to
19 thrive and grow, free from the potential threats and disruptions of an
20 unreliable crude oil supply from less secure parts of the world; and

21 WHEREAS, The increasing production of conflict-free oil from
22 Canadian oil sands can both replace crude oil imported from countries
23 that do not share American values and add additional pipeline capacity to
24 refineries in the United States Midwest and Gulf Coast; and

25 WHEREAS, Increasing energy imports from Canada makes sense for
26 the United States. Canada is a trusted neighbor with a stable democratic
27 government, strong environmental standards equal to that of the United
28 States and some of the most stringent human rights and worker protection
29 laws in the world; and

30 WHEREAS, The 57 refineries in the Gulf Coast region provide a total
31 refining capacity of approximately 8.7 million barrels per day, or half of
32 the refining capacity of the United States. In 2011, these refineries
33 imported approximately 5 million barrels per day of crude oil from more
34 than 30 countries, with the top five suppliers being Canada with 24%,
35 Mexico with 22%, Saudi Arabia with 17%, Venezuela with 16% and
36 Nigeria with 9%. Imports from Mexico and Venezuela are declining as

1 production from those countries decreases and supply contracts expire.
2 Once completed, TransCanada's Keystone XL and Gulf Coast Expansion
3 projects could displace roughly 40% of the oil the United States currently
4 imports from the Persian Gulf and Venezuela; and

5 WHEREAS, The Keystone XL Pipeline project, which has been
6 subject to the most thorough public consultation process of any proposed
7 United States pipeline and the subject of multiple environmental impact
8 statements and several United States Department of State studies, poses a
9 minimal impact to the environment and is much safer than other modes of
10 transporting crude oil; and

11 WHEREAS, Pipelines are the safest method for the transportation of
12 petroleum products when compared to other methods of transportation.
13 Pipelines are 40 times safer than moving crude oil by rail and 100 times
14 safer than transportation by truck. The Keystone XL Pipeline will
15 replace the equivalent of a tanker train 25 miles long or 200 ocean tankers
16 per year; and

17 WHEREAS, The Keystone XL project will create approximately
18 9,000 jobs during construction, and the related \$2.3 billion Gulf Coast
19 Project will create approximately 4,000 construction jobs. Combined, the
20 projects will support an additional 7,000 manufacturing jobs.
21 Furthermore, 75% of the pipe used to build Keystone XL in the United
22 States will come from North American mills, with half being made by
23 workers in the United States, and goods for the pipeline valued at
24 approximately \$800 million have already been sourced from United
25 States manufacturers: Now, therefore,

26 *Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas,*
27 *the Senate concurring therein:* That we urge the President of the United
28 States to support the continued and increased importation of oil derived
29 from Canadian oil sands; and that we urge the United States Secretary of
30 State to approve the newly-routed pipeline application from TransCanada
31 in order to reduce dependence on unstable governments, improve our
32 national security and strengthen ties with an important ally.

33 *Be it further resolved:* That the Secretary of State be directed to
34 provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the United
35 States, the United States Secretary of State and each member of the
36 Kansas Congressional Delegation.

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