

A RESOLUTION urging the President of the United States to encourage oil and natural gas production off the northern coast of Alaska, and to approve the construction of the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline project.

WHEREAS, high oil prices are having a major detrimental impact on families, farms, and businesses in Kentucky and are likely to undercut the prospects for an economic recovery; and

WHEREAS, the United States currently imports almost half of its oil and petroleum products, making it dependent on foreign sources and subject to interruptions and price fluctuations stemming from geopolitical forces; and

WHEREAS, such instability has damaging consequences both for our economy and our national security; and

WHEREAS, the United States Geological Survey estimates a resource of up to 27 billion barrels of oil in the Chukchi and Beaufort Seas of Alaska, providing a vast domestic oil reserve, but opposition and regulatory hurdles are keeping energy producers from accessing these resources; and

WHEREAS, the TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline project seeks to link expanded oil production from the Canadian oil sands to refineries in the United States and to facilitate the flow of oil from the Dakotas to the Gulf Coast, thereby decreasing our dependence on oil from outside of North America; and

WHEREAS, Canada is a close friend and ally, with whom we share links of infrastructure and energy networks and other ties, so that dollars spent on Canadian oil will likely contribute to the success of the American economy; and

WHEREAS, the TransCanada pipeline project is projected to create construction and manufacturing jobs in the United States, adding billions of dollars to our economy;

NOW, THEREFORE,

***Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

➔Section 1. The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky calls upon President Barack Obama and administration officials to support the increased importation of oil from Canadian oil sands and to approve the newly routed TransCanada Keystone XL pipeline to reduce our oil dependency on unstable governments, strengthen ties with an important ally, and create jobs for American workers.

➔Section 2. The House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Kentucky calls upon President Barack Obama and administration officials to support and facilitate permitting for oil production off the northern coast of Alaska to decrease our dependence on foreign oil and spur investment in the American economy.

➔Section 3. A copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the President and Vice President of the United States of America, the Secretary of State of the United States of America, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of the Kentucky delegation to the United States Congress.