

Building and Construction Trades

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January 22, 2015

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the 3 million skilled craft professionals that constitute the 14 affiliates of North America's Building Trades Unions, I write to urge you to vote **YES** on S. 1, the Keystone XL Pipeline Act.

This vote is, pure and simple, a vote for American jobs, and North America's Building Trades Unions intend to score it as a key vote for job creation.

The livelihood of thousands of Building Trades members depend on the construction of Keystone XL. Once the project moves forward, our skilled craft members can immediately begin building this critical component of our nation's energy infrastructure.

North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) hail the decision by the Nebraska Supreme Court to uphold the state's approval of the current Keystone XL pipeline route. This decision removes the President's remaining concerns stated in the Statement of Administration Policy (SAP).

In the six years that we have waited for a presidential decision on Keystone XL (KXL), more than 10,000 miles of pipelines have been constructed across America. Many of these other pipelines were built without the 59 additional safety monitoring requirements of the Keystone project. Yet the Keystone XL pipeline languishes in a process of the president's own making.

As if the persistent high unemployment in construction is not damaging enough, the over 6 million men and women who make their livelihoods in the construction industry must suffer the indignity of having their chosen careers demeaned by professional politicians as nothing more than "temporary" jobs in the context of the debate over the KXL project.

The Hoover Dam, the Interstate Highway System, and the latest iconic building in America - the Freedom Tower in New York - are just a small sampling of the "temporary" construction jobs that have had such a lasting impact on our great nation.

Working families across America are waiting to see if this new Congress will stand up and take action to support and strengthen the American middle-class.

Passage of S. 1 will result in significant economic benefits for our country, and will go a long way in demonstrating that Congress' concern and respect for American skilled craft professionals who build this nation is truly steadfast and not subject to changing political winds.

Once again, I strongly urge a **YES** vote on S. 1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean McGarvey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent flourish at the end.

Sean McGarvey
President