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NORTH AMERICA'S BUILDING TRADES UNIONS

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February 10, 2015

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

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

This is a vote for American jobs and the middle-class.

As you know, the livelihood of over 40,000 Building Trades members directly depends on the construction of Keystone XL. Once the project moves forward, our skilled craft members can immediately begin building this critical piece of our nation's energy infrastructure.

We applaud the efforts of the House for passing H.R. 3, the Keystone XL Pipeline Act. Now with the Senate approval of S.1 we call on the House of Representatives to once again stand up for 6 million men and women who work in the construction industry and pass this critical piece of legislation.

The Senate bill encourages energy and cost savings in households, businesses, and the federal government. Furthermore, this legislation unequivocally states that climate change is real – a position on which we strongly agree. It also contains the exact provisions that have passed the House before. These include the:

- Immediate authorization of the construction and operation of the Keystone XL pipeline.
- Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) issued by the State Department in January 2014 satisfies all NEPA requirements and other federal reviews.
- Previously issued federal permit concerning the pipeline stay in effect.
- Limitation of the judicial challenges to the Keystone XL pipeline, providing that except for review in the Supreme Court, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia shall have original and exclusive jurisdiction over any legal challenge.
- Continuation of protected rights of private property owners that may be affected by the pipeline's route.

Passage of the Keystone XL Pipeline Approval Act will result in significant benefits for our economy and will demonstrate that Congress's concern and respect for American skilled craft professionals who build this nation is truly steadfast and not subject to the changing political winds.

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

Sincerely,



Sean McGarvey
President