

Administrator

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND LOWER ENERGY  
COSTS IN THE UNITED STATES AND IN NEW JERSEY

WHEREAS, for decades, the United States has too greatly relied on sources of energy produced outside of our borders. While the United States has enjoyed a higher degree of energy independence in the last decade due to an increase in domestic energy production, we still import much of our energy from other countries, including tens of millions of barrels of foreign crude oil from overseas each month; and

WHEREAS, as a direct result of both federal and state policies and foreseeable world events, gas prices in the United States are rising at the fastest pace recorded since 2000. Rising gas prices are eating away at recent wage growth gains and are increasing the risk of a recession, while also adversely impacting U.S. consumers as higher energy prices raise the cost of shipping goods through already stressed supply chains, disproportionately affecting low-income families and citizens; and

WHEREAS, while the causes of surging energy prices are complex and multi-faceted, many industry experts agree that misplaced federal and state energy policies that hinder domestic energy production are at least, in part, to blame; and

WHEREAS, burdensome regulations on energy producers, lack of incentives for domestic energy resource development and the blocking of key energy infrastructure projects, such as the Keystone XL Pipeline, have caused the demand for energy to far

outpace supply, thereby resulting in skyrocketing energy costs; and

WHEREAS, now more than ever our nation needs sound energy policies that encourage domestic energy production and reestablish our energy independence, stability and security; and

WHEREAS, domestic energy production also plays a critical role in supporting geopolitical stability through increased access to a stable supply of reliable and affordable energy produced in the United States and supplied to our allies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Monmouth County Board of County Commissioners that federal and state policymakers should take immediate action to adopt policies that will help lead to energy independence and lower energy costs in the United States and in New Jersey, such as removing barriers to the completion of energy infrastructure projects, including the Keystone XL Pipeline, streamlining regulations on energy producers and incentivizing the development of domestic energy production.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities, the Commissioners of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the Secretary of the United States Department of Energy, the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the entire New Jersey congressional delegation.