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HM 281

2014 Legislature

1 House Memorial

2 A memorial to the President of the United States,
3 urging the President to issue final approval for
4 construction and completion of the Keystone XL
5 pipeline project.

6
7 WHEREAS, Floridians consume approximately 26 million
8 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel daily and approximately 9.5
9 billion gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel annually, and

10 WHEREAS, across party lines, Floridians have long
11 recognized the dependence of the state's tourism and
12 agricultural economy on access to reliable and affordable
13 petroleum products, and

14 WHEREAS, many other Florida industries, including
15 fertilizer, agrochemical, plastic, manufacturing, bakeries,
16 juice processing, pulp and paper, road construction, metals,
17 restaurants, and grocery stores, are heavily dependent on access
18 to reliable and affordable petroleum products to transport
19 goods, and

20 WHEREAS, Gulf state refineries produce the vast majority of
21 the gasoline and diesel fuel crude oil delivered and consumed in
22 Florida, and

23 WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline will be capable of
24 transporting more than 800,000 barrels of crude oil per day to
25 57 Gulf state refineries, and

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26 WHEREAS, the crude oil transported through the Keystone XL
27 pipeline could replace oil from unstable regions of the world
28 with oil from Canada, a friendly and historically reliable
29 neighbor and our principal source of imported crude oil, and

30 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of
31 Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety
32 Administration, pipelines are one of the safest and most cost-
33 effective means to transport petroleum products, and

34 WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline could reduce the large
35 numbers of tankers and barges carrying crude oil through the
36 Straits of Florida and across the Gulf of Mexico, and

37 WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline will not encounter the
38 disruptions experienced by tankers and barges delivering crude
39 oil to Gulf state refineries during hurricanes in the Gulf of
40 Mexico, thus enhancing Florida's energy security during
41 emergencies, and

42 WHEREAS, the southern portion of the Keystone XL pipeline
43 has already been approved and construction is proceeding, and

44 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of
45 State, construction of the United States portion of the Keystone
46 XL pipeline is a \$3.3 billion project that will create thousands
47 of American jobs, and

48 WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline project has been subject
49 to the most thorough public consultation process of any proposed
50 United States pipeline, and

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51 WHEREAS, according to the Supplementary Environmental
52 Impact Statement issued by the United States Department of
53 State, multiple environmental impact statements and studies have
54 concluded that the Keystone XL pipeline poses the least impact
55 to the environment and is much safer than other modes of
56 transporting crude oil, and

57 WHEREAS, the Keystone XL pipeline project has received
58 bipartisan support in the United States Congress, including a
59 letter to the President signed by 53 Senators urging the
60 President to support the pipeline, and

61 WHEREAS, a recent Pew Research Center survey has found that
62 two-thirds of Americans support the Keystone XL pipeline
63 project, NOW, THEREFORE,

64

65 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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67 That the President of the United States is strongly urged
68 to issue final approval for construction and completion of the
69 Keystone XL pipeline project.

70 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
71 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
72 President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the
73 United States House of Representatives, and to each member of
74 the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.