



THE VOICE OF OHIO'S HIGH-TECH CHEMISTRY COMMUNITY...
MAKING A BETTER WORLD FOR ALL OHIOANS.

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March 16, 2021

Ohio Chemistry Technology Council Testimony In Support of House Resolution 13

Chairman Baldrige, Vice Chair McClain, Ranking Member Sheehy and members of the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee, my name is Andy Swaim. I am the Director of Government and External Affairs for the Ohio Chemistry Technology Council (OCTC). Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of House Resolution (HR 13).

OCTC is the leading advocate for Ohio's chemistry industry. Ohio is also the third largest chemical manufacturing state in the United States. The chemistry industry in Ohio employs nearly 40,000 people, pays an average wage of over \$85,000, and ships more than \$5.6 billion in products worldwide every year. In addition to our chemical manufacturing members, our membership includes refineries which produce gasoline and aviation fuels as well as providing valuable feed stocks and other petrochemicals that support and drive Ohio's chemistry industry.

OCTC has been engaged in support of line 5 for almost two years and we frequently weigh-in on issues regarding pipeline infrastructure throughout the state and region. Pipeline transport is known to be both the safest and most cost-effective way to move crude oil and petroleum products. The line 5 pipeline has operated safely since 1953. It is clear that there are no feasible alternatives to line 5 that can supply the needed quantity of crude oil to Ohio's two refineries based in the Toledo area.

Ohio and the surrounding area have benefited economically from the operation of the line 5 pipeline. The access to affordable crude oil has provided employment opportunities, as well as access to affordable, reliable sources of fuels and petrochemical feedstocks. However, the potential closure of line 5 would likely result in significant job loss in the region of roughly 1,200 direct jobs and hundreds of thousands of man-hours that are contracted annually to the local trades. The rippling economic effects could include regional price shocks on fuels as well as the feedstocks that are vital industry of chemistry. The local and regional



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economic impacts would be devastating at any time, but are likely to be particularly damaging during our current economic recovery on the heels of COVID-19.

OCTC urges passage of House Resolution 13, which will help to prevent negative economic impacts of job loss at our refineries, while also securing critical regional fuel and feedstock supplies. OCTC commends the ranking member for his leadership on this issue. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today, and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have.