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**Committees:**  
Agriculture & Natural Resources, Chair  
Government Oversight and Reform  
Insurance  
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Environmental Education Fund Advisory Council  
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Ohio Dentist Loan Repayment Advisory Board  
Ohio Expositions Commission

**Senate Energy and Public Utilities Committee  
Senate Resolution 259 — Sponsor Testimony  
Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Chairman McColley, Vice Chairman Schuring, Ranking Member Martin and members of the committee, thank you for allowing me to provide testimony today on Senate Resolution 259.

Senate Resolution 259 urges the president of the United States to implement policies to ensure the country becomes energy independent and eliminate policies that cripple the production of crude oil, natural gas, and coal.

While I introduced this resolution in relation to Russia's invasion of Ukraine earlier this year, the actions within its language are worthwhile policy and should be pursued regardless of geo-political events. As the resolution states, crude oil, natural gas, and coal are vital components of our nation's economy. Nationwide, these three industries provide more than 11 million jobs, with 375,000 jobs and a \$58 billion in annual gross domestic income in Ohio alone.

Furthermore, the United States has the capacity to resolve our current energy needs and lower the cost of gasoline for consumers to answer the increased demand for energy domestically and combat the highest economic inflation rate in 40 years.

As a country, we import approximately 670,000 barrels per day. If constructed, the domestic Keystone XL Pipeline would have the capacity to supply 830,000 barrels per day of crude oil to American families and businesses. According to the American Petroleum Institute, "it is time for an energy awakening – for the natural gas and oil supply chain and the government at all levels to open a new era of working together to ensure that essential energy resources are unlocked; to encourage investment opportunities and accelerate infrastructure development; and to strengthen global energy security, affordability and reliability."

At this moment in time, the world is looking to our nation for its leadership – politically - and when it comes to energy. Instead, our current administration has enacted increased taxes on domestic oil and gas production and introduced disincentives to coal use, causing idling or premature retirement of our domestic coal plants. These measures were not developed in conjunction with these industries and seeks to punish them to appease particular constituencies.

We have the ability, capacity, and reserves of these three vital resources to once again be the world's net exporter of energy resources – supplying our country and allies across the world with energy.

Thank you once again Chairman McColley and members of the committee for the opportunity to present this legislation to you today. I will be glad to answer any questions at this time.