

ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH CONGRESS  
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
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**Statement of Rep. Henry A. Waxman**  
**Ranking Member, Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**Full Committee Markup of H.R. 3301, the “North American Energy Infrastructure Act,”**  
**H.R. 4342, the “Domain Openness Through Continued Oversight Matters Act of 2014,”**  
**and H.R. \_\_\_, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to extend expiring**  
**provisions relating to the retransmission of signals of television broadcast stations.**  
**Committee on Energy and Commerce**  
**May 7, 2014**

Today we start consideration of three bills. I strongly oppose two of these bills and support one.

Yesterday, in the third National Climate Assessment, the nation’s top scientists warned us again of the dangers of climate change. This report documents how climate change is harming Americans, today.

This Committee has the responsibility to respond to this threat. Instead, we are considering H.R. 3301, which would make climate change even worse.

The bill would stop the President from evaluating the climate impact, and almost every other impact, of multi-billion dollar energy infrastructure projects that will increase carbon pollution for decades to come.

The Keystone XL tar sands pipeline is one such project. Over the last few years, House Republicans have repeatedly tried to mandate approval of Keystone XL. This bill goes even further. It creates a new process to rubberstamp every pending and future tar sands pipeline.

H.R. 3301 requires rushed approvals of tar sands pipelines with no federal environmental review, no public comment, and no consideration of legitimate concerns such as climate change – or even safety. The bill eliminates federal environmental review and mandates approval of projects that are contrary to the broad public interest.

This bill virtually guarantees that Keystone XL and other controversial pending tar sands pipelines are approved within about one to two years. Under this “Zombie Pipeline Act,” even if the Administration rejects Keystone XL because it is not in the public interest, Keystone XL can rise from the grave and reapply. It would then be rubberstamped under the new process.

H.R. 3301 also applies to cross-border natural gas pipelines and electric transmission lines. And the bill would allow for unlimited exports of liquefied natural gas through Canada and Mexico with absolutely no controls or conditions.

The Administration has expressed “serious concerns” about H.R. 3301, explaining that the bill “would unnecessarily limit the ability for the Executive Branch to make reasoned and responsible decisions.”

I share those concerns and hope members will vote against this bill.

We will also markup two telecom bills tomorrow. I am pleased to join Ranking Member Eshoo, Chairman Upton, and Chairman Walden in becoming an original co-sponsor of the STELA Reauthorization Act of 2014.

The bill reflects the bipartisan agreement that we reached on a number of key issues concerning the video marketplace. This bill will prohibit the collusive practice of joint retransmission consent negotiation by two or more broadcasters in the same market.

It also provides enhanced notice and compliance procedures for broadcasters to unwind Joint Sales Agreements that do not comport with FCC requirements. And it offers new incentives for cable operators to design more energy-efficient set-top boxes.

This legislation will benefit the TV viewing public. I want to thank Chairman Upton and Chairman Walden for their work with Democrats to produce a bipartisan agreement we can all stand behind, and I want to thank Ranking Member Eshoo for her leadership in spearheading our efforts.

Unfortunately, the second telecom bill we will consider, the DOTCOM Act, is not bipartisan. This bill makes false assumptions about the role of the United States government in the management of key Internet functions today, and it contradicts Congress’ past support of the multi-stakeholder model for Internet governance. If passed, it will undermine our diplomats’ efforts to ensure a global open Internet.

The Administration formally opposes the bill, and so do I. Rather than pushing forward with a partisan bill that has zero chance of enactment, we should join together to ensure that ICANN has the proper tools to protect and enhance a free and open Internet.