Legislative Bulletin......November 13, 2014

Contents:

H.R. 5682 — To Approve the Keystone XL Pipeline

H. R. 5682 – To Approve the Keystone XL Pipeline. (Rep. Cassidy, R-LA)

<u>Order of Business</u>: The bill is scheduled to be considered on November 13, 2014, subject to a rule.

<u>Summary: H.R. 5682</u> would approve <u>TransCanada's application</u> to construct the Keystone XL pipeline. The bill would authorize TransCanada to construct, connect, operate, and maintain the pipeline and cross-border facilities described in the application to the Department of State, including any subsequent revision to the pipeline route within the State of Nebraska. The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement shall be considered to fully satisfy:

- All requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969; and
- Any other provision of law that requires Federal agency consultation or review.

The bill allows for any Federal permit or authorization issued before the date of enactment of the Act for the pipeline and cross-border facilities to remain in effect. H.R. 5682 would also provide that any legal challenge to a Federal agency action regarding the pipeline and cross-border facilities be subject only to judicial review on direct appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. The bill would not alter any Federal, State, or local process that is necessary to secure access from an owner of private property to construct the pipeline and cross-border facilities.

Additional Information: Approving the Keystone pipeline has been a component of the Republican Study Committee's JOBS Act, Title XV of H.R. 4304 (Rep. Scalise, R-LA), which is cosponsored by 53 RSC Members. More information about the RSC JOBS Act can be found here. A similar bill (H.R. 3- Northern Route Approval Act) was introduced in 2013 that would waive the requirement that they Keystone XL pipeline project receive a Presidential permit, thereby approving the pipeline's construction. More information from the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on the Keystone XL pipeline project can be found here.

<u>Committee Action</u>: The bill was introduced on November 12, 2014, and was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Administration Position: No Statement of Administration Policy is available.

Cost to Taxpayers: No CBO estimate is available.

Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?: No.

<u>Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?</u>: No.

Constitutional Authority: No Constitutional Authority is available.

RSC Staff Contact: Nicholas Rodman, nicholas.rodman@mail.house.gov, (202) 226-8576

<u>NOTE</u>: RSC Legislative Bulletins are for informational purposes only and should not be taken as statements of support or opposition from the Republican Study Committee.