

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 17, 2009

Mike O'Neal
Speaker of the House
State Capitol Building, Rm. 390-W
Topeka, KS 66612

Paul Davis
House Minority Leader
State Capitol Building, Rm. 281-W
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Speaker O'Neal and Minority Leader Davis:

As Washington continues to look for the best way to create jobs and rebuild our economy, our nation is being made increasingly aware of an energy crisis that has the potential to become the most significant economic and national security challenge facing the United States. We are living in a time of rising global energy demand, limited new supplies, a decaying infrastructure, and an increasingly polarized and paralyzed national debate on this issue. Meanwhile Kansans are feeling the pinch of higher energy prices and our state's employers are in need of an energy policy that is applied fairly and consistently. Kansas, like our nation, requires a long-term, common sense energy strategy that offers a blueprint for our future while providing the practical and realistic solutions necessary to meet our growing energy demands. We must enact policies that will encourage the development of new technologies and continue to utilize our nation's plentiful domestic energy supplies.

As Washington considers various federal policies to address our energy challenges, we applaud your leadership in working towards meaningful, comprehensive energy legislation for Kansas. We believe the legislation being considered by the House and Senate will provide our state with the regulatory structure needed to create jobs and provide a sound energy policy for our future.

It is unfortunate that the Governor, in spite of overwhelming bipartisan support, has rejected legislation that will address the important issues facing our state's energy future.

Legislation recently passed by the House and Senate includes many important provisions that will help citizens across the state. Provisions to implement energy efficiency measures, promote renewable sources, establish energy standards, and allow for the construction of new and base load power sources are all needed to move the state forward.

Kansas must enact energy policies that reflect an "all of the above" approach – promote new, alternative sources of energy; foster the exploration and development of our proven energy sources that have provided our nation with an economy and standard of living envied around the world; and continue the significant improvements in environmental stewardship without sacrificing jobs and growth.

We urge you to continue fighting for the passage of a comprehensive energy policy for Kansas based on the principles found in HB 2014. We support your efforts and encourage Kansas legislators in both parties to come together to support this important legislation.

Sincerely,



Sam Brownback
United States Senator



Pat Roberts
United States Senator



Todd Tiahrt
Member of Congress



Jerry Moran
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins
Member of Congress