

Gas Prices

This week I, with other Members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, held a hearing on Capitol Hill to address the rapidly-rising gas prices that are hurting our country. Pump prices in Omaha are nearing \$4.00 a gallon. That is why we in the House have passed five bills to strike down barriers preventing more domestic energy production. Our great country has an abundant supply of natural resources. It is about time that we put them to use. We also passed legislation to ensure the construction of the Keystone Pipeline. This will bring a major new oil supply from our number one trading partner and neighbor, Canada. Together, these bills decrease our reliance on Middle Eastern oil and stabilize gas prices. If the Senate passes these bills, it will ease the pocketbook pain for all Americans.

JOBS Act

The House of Representative passed legislation that reduces regulations on small businesses, making it much quicker for newly-created companies to go public. H.R. 3606, the Jumpstart Our Business Startups (JOBS) Act, passed by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 390 to 23. The JOBS Act is comprised of six provisions helping small American businesses, including one allowing small companies to advertise in order to contact potential investors and raise start-up capital. The JOBS Act is common sense legislation that cuts government red tape, and makes life easier for small American businesses. In the middle of a recession, we need to encourage entrepreneurship and increase opportunities for start-up business. That is exactly what this bill does, it jumpstarts the economy by helping small business succeed.