

**Testimony of Kansas Industrial Consumers Group (KIC)  
In Support of HCR 5023  
Before the Senate Utilities Committee  
March 8, 2022  
–Written Only–**

KIC encourages the Committee to support House Concurrent Resolution 5023. Kansans will not soon forget about Winter Storm Uri. The economic damage easily eclipsed \$1 billion, remarkably for only a few days of natural gas usage.

All Kansans faced financial hardships and operational challenges. KIC members worked cooperatively with natural gas and electric utilities to conserve energy and reduce demand so that needed natural gas and electricity could flow to those that needed it most. Our members reduced operations during the critical period, generally to levels to prevent pipes from freezing, to free up energy for residential users and for those addressing human health needs.

We greatly appreciate U.S. Senator Roger Marshall fighting for Kansans and highlighting high-cost issues with the leadership of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) during Congressional hearings on September 28, 2021. At the hearing, FERC Chairman Glick acknowledged “anomalies” in gas pricing in Kansas and pledged to investigate.

KIC agrees there was surely something amiss with natural gas prices during Uri and believes additional investigations by FERC and the Kansas Attorney General are warranted.

We appreciate the Committee bringing HCR 5023 forward and encourage its passage.

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*The Kansas Industrial Consumers Group is a coalition of large-volume energy users in Kansas. The members collectively represent billions of dollars of investment in the State and employ thousands of Kansans. We believe high energy costs are negatively impacting business operations and expansion, in addition to creating burdens for residential consumers, schools, hospitals, and large and small businesses.*