

# ESCA

EMPLOYEE-OWNED S CORPORATIONS OF AMERICA

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Kansas City, KS- On Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS) visited a water treatment plant in Kansas City, Kansas being built by Garney Construction employee-owners to provide safe, clean water to residents of Johnson County, Kansas. Senator Roberts told the more than 50 employee-owners that “ESOPs are good for you and good for America.” Senator Roberts, who was accompanied by his daughter and two staff members, had an opportunity to tour the construction site and then visit with Garney’s employee-owners. He discussed the importance of the upcoming elections and ensuring that there are enough S ESOP supporters in the Senate to ensure they can fight any negative legislation.

Garney employee-owner Sean Bryson read from a letter he had written about what being an employee-owner means to him: “One of the biggest reasons I work here is because it’s an ESOP company. The people here are working toward something they have control of, their future. Everyone has a hand in that future. Everyone here will reap the benefits of their focus and determination instead of handing it over to that one person or small group of owners...If you notice on the back of some of our shirts there is a saying that says “the power of ownership.” I like to look at it like “the pride of ownership,” because I’m proud to work with so many people who own the same company I own.”

Visibly moved, Senator Roberts noted “that letter says it all.” Senator Roberts asked Sean to sign a copy of the letter for him and mentioned he was saving it to read on the Senate Floor should S ESOPs come up for discussion.

ESCA companies have worked hard in Kansas to educate Senator Roberts and make him an active champion of their interests. Senator Roberts has visited Burns and McDonnell and Ferrellgas this year. Additionally, employee-owners from Burns & McDonnell and Inland Truck Parts visited his Washington office on July 29<sup>th</sup> as part of lobby day and met with Senator Roberts and his tax aide. We believe he is well positioned to take on this role as an active supporter of S corporation ESOPs in the current and upcoming Congress in his service on the Senate Finance Committee.

