

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 5537

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the establishment of an Office of Public Engagement in the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

Mrs. TRAHAN (for herself and Ms. TLAIB) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the establishment of an Office of Public Engagement in the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Pipeline Accountability Act of 2025”.

1 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
 2 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.  
 Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS

Sec. 101. Factors for consideration in prescribing standards.  
 Sec. 102. Cost-benefit analyses.  
 Sec. 103. Technical safety standards committees.  
 Sec. 104. Application of regulations to existing pipelines.  
 Sec. 105. Rupture-mitigation valves on pipelines in high consequence areas.  
 Sec. 106. Safety of carbon dioxide pipelines.  
 Sec. 107. Blending in natural gas systems.  
 Sec. 108. Extension and modification of Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program.  
 Sec. 109. Rulemaking on underground natural gas storage.

TITLE II—PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND TRANSPARENCY

Sec. 201. Office of Public Engagement.  
 Sec. 202. Public hearings on proposed rules.  
 Sec. 203. Disclosure of safety data.  
 Sec. 204. Reporting of blended products.  
 Sec. 205. Incident reporting for gas pipelines.

TITLE III—ACCOUNTABILITY

Sec. 301. Prohibition against releases.  
 Sec. 302. Actions by private persons.  
 Sec. 303. Penalties.

3 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

4 In this Act:

5 (1) ADMINISTRATION.—The term “Administra-  
 6 tion” means the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials  
 7 Safety Administration.

8 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
 9 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
 10 gress” means—

11 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
 12 and Transportation of the Senate;

1 (B) the Committee on Transportation and  
2 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;  
3 and

4 (C) the Committee on Energy and Com-  
5 merce of the House of Representatives.

6 (3) ENVIRONMENT.—The term “environment”  
7 includes—

8 (A) water, air, and land; and

9 (B) the interrelationship that exists among  
10 and between water, air, and land and all  
11 present and future generations of living beings.

12 (4) ENVIRONMENTAL.—The term “environ-  
13 mental” means relating to or concerning the envi-  
14 ronment.

15 (5) INCIDENT.—The term “incident” has the  
16 meaning given the term in section 191.3 of title 49,  
17 Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regula-  
18 tion).

19 (6) NATURAL GAS.—The term “natural gas”  
20 has the meaning given the term in section 2 of the  
21 Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717a).

22 (7) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
23 the Secretary of Transportation, acting through the  
24 Administrator of the Administration.

1                   **TITLE I—SAFETY AND**  
2                   **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTIONS**

3                   **SEC. 101. FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRESCRIBING**  
4                   **STANDARDS.**

5                   (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 60102(b)(2) of title 49,  
6 United States Code, is amended—

7                   (1) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at  
8 the end;

9                   (2) in subparagraph (G), by striking the period  
10 at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

11                   (3) by adding at the end the following:

12                   “(H) the need to mitigate negative impacts  
13 to the global climate and avoid unnecessarily  
14 prolonging the life span of fossil fuel infrastruc-  
15 ture; and

16                   “(I) transition plans toward non-emitting  
17 alternatives.”.

18                   (b) DEFINITION.—

19                   (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 60101(a) of title 49,  
20 United States Code, is amended—

21                   (A) in paragraph (25), by striking “and”  
22 at the end;

23                   (B) in paragraph (22)(B)(iii), by inserting  
24 “and” after the semicolon at the end;

1 (C) by redesignating paragraphs (17)  
2 through (26) as paragraphs (18), (19), (20),  
3 (24), (25), (26), (21), (22), (23), and (27), re-  
4 spectively, and moving the paragraphs so as to  
5 appear in numerical order; and

6 (D) by inserting after paragraph (16) the  
7 following:

8 “(17) ‘non-emitting alternative’ means a tech-  
9 nological or efficiency-related energy solution that  
10 does not entail the use of fossil fuels that are di-  
11 rectly or indirectly related to the greenhouse effect,  
12 including electrification, renewable energy sources,  
13 networked geothermal systems, storage, efficiency,  
14 and behavior change;”.

15 (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

16 (A) Section 70012(c) of title 46, United  
17 States Code, is amended by striking “section  
18 60101(a)(18)” and inserting “section  
19 60101(a)”.

20 (B) Section 60102(q)(1) of title 49, United  
21 States Code, is amended, in the matter pre-  
22 ceding subparagraph (A), by striking “sub-  
23 section (a)(21)” and inserting “subsection  
24 (a)(25)”.

1 **SEC. 102. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSES.**

2 Section 60102(b) of title 49, United States Code (as  
3 amended by section 101), is amended—

4 (1) in paragraph (2)—

5 (A) by striking subparagraphs (D) and  
6 (E); and

7 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (F)  
8 through (I) as subparagraphs (D) through (G),  
9 respectively; and

10 (2) by striking paragraphs (3) through (7).

11 **SEC. 103. TECHNICAL SAFETY STANDARDS COMMITTEES.**

12 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 60115 of title 49, United  
13 States Code, is amended—

14 (1) in subsection (a), by striking the third sen-  
15 tence;

16 (2) in subsection (b)(4)—

17 (A) in subparagraph (C)—

18 (i) by striking the second and third  
19 sentences and inserting the following:

20 “(ii) None of the individuals selected for a committee  
21 under paragraph (3)(C) may have a financial interest in  
22 the pipeline, petroleum, ethanol, or gas industries, includ-  
23 ing through direct ownership, consulting fees, wages, or  
24 research funding provided directly to the individual, but  
25 not including any compensation for a pipeline easement  
26 on the property of the individual.”; and

1 (ii) by striking “(C) Two” and insert-  
2 ing the following:

3 “(C)(i) Two”; and

4 (B) by striking subparagraph (D) and in-  
5 serting the following:

6 “(iii) All individuals under consideration for selection  
7 for a committee under paragraph (3)(C) shall submit to  
8 the Secretary such financial records for the previous year  
9 as the Secretary determines necessary to evaluate compli-  
10 ance with clause (ii). All individuals selected for a com-  
11 mittee under paragraph (3)(C) shall submit to the Sec-  
12 retary, prior to appointment and annually thereafter for  
13 so long as the individual is a member of the committee,  
14 such financial records for the previous year as the Sec-  
15 retary determines necessary to evaluate compliance with  
16 clause (ii).

17 “(iv) The Secretary shall provide reasonable com-  
18 pensation for members of each committee that are ap-  
19 pointed under paragraph (3)(C). Such compensation shall  
20 not make a member of a committee an officer or employee  
21 of the Federal Government in determining eligibility for  
22 membership on the applicable committee.”; and

23 (3) in subsection (c)—

24 (A) in paragraph (1)—

1 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
2 “Committee each standard proposed under  
3 this chapter for transporting gas and for  
4 gas pipeline facilities including the risk as-  
5 sessment information and other analyses  
6 supporting each proposed standard;” and  
7 inserting the following: “Committee—  
8 “(i) each standard proposed under this  
9 chapter for—  
10 “(I) transporting gas; or  
11 “(II) gas pipeline facilities; and  
12 “(ii) analyses supporting each proposed  
13 standard described in clause (i);”; and  
14 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
15 “Committee each standard proposed under  
16 this chapter for transporting hazardous liq-  
17 uid and for hazardous liquid pipeline facili-  
18 ties including the risk assessment informa-  
19 tion and other analyses supporting each  
20 proposed standard.” and inserting the fol-  
21 lowing: “Committee—  
22 “(i) each standard proposed under this  
23 chapter for—  
24 “(I) transporting hazardous liquid; or

1 “(II) hazardous liquid pipeline facili-  
2 ties; and

3 “(ii) analyses supporting each proposed  
4 standard described in clause (i).”; and

5 (B) in paragraph (2), in the first sen-  
6 tence—

7 (i) by striking “cost-effectiveness,”;  
8 and

9 (ii) by inserting “, and the strength of  
10 the proposed standard to promote safety  
11 and protect the environment (as defined in  
12 section 2 of the Pipeline Accountability Act  
13 of 2025),” before “and include”.

14 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
15 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-  
16 essary to carry out this section and the amendments made  
17 by this section.

18 **SEC. 104. APPLICATION OF REGULATIONS TO EXISTING**  
19 **PIPELINES.**

20 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 60104(b) of title 49,  
21 United States Code, is amended—

22 (1) in the subsection heading, by striking  
23 “NONAPPLICATION” and inserting “APPLICATION”;

24 (2) by striking “does not apply” and inserting  
25 “shall be applied”; and

1           (3) by adding at the end the following: “The  
2           authority of the Secretary to apply any standard  
3           promulgated pursuant to this chapter (including any  
4           standard promulgated prior to the date of enactment  
5           of the Pipeline Accountability Act of 2025) shall not  
6           be limited by virtue of a pipeline preexisting the  
7           issuance of that standard.”.

8           (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 60109(c)  
9           of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

10           (1) by striking paragraph (11); and

11           (2) by redesignating paragraph (12) as para-  
12           graph (11).

13           **SEC. 105. RUPTURE-MITIGATION VALVES ON PIPELINES IN**  
14           **HIGH CONSEQUENCE AREAS.**

15           Section 60109(c) of title 49, United States Code (as  
16           amended by section 104(b)(2)), is amended by adding at  
17           the end the following:

18           “(12) RUPTURE-MITIGATION VALVES ON PIPE-  
19           LINES IN HIGH CONSEQUENCE AREAS.—

20           “(A) DEFINITIONS.—

21           “(i) CLASS 3 OR 4 LOCATION.—The  
22           term ‘Class 3 or 4 location’, with respect  
23           to a gas pipeline facility, means, as appli-  
24           cable—

1 “(I) a Class 3 location (as de-  
2 fined in section 192.5(b) of title 49,  
3 Code of Federal Regulations (or a  
4 successor regulation)); or

5 “(II) a Class 4 location (as de-  
6 fined in that section).

7 “(ii) COVERED LOCATION.—The term  
8 ‘covered location’ means—

9 “(I) a high consequence area;  
10 and

11 “(II) a location where a rupture  
12 could affect—

13 “(aa) a high consequence  
14 area; or

15 “(bb) a Class 3 or 4 loca-  
16 tion.

17 “(iii) COVERED PIPELINE.—The term  
18 ‘covered pipeline’ means an existing or  
19 newly constructed pipeline, 6 inches or  
20 greater in diameter, that is—

21 “(I) a gas transmission pipeline;

22 “(II) a type A onshore gathering  
23 pipeline (as described in section  
24 192.8(c) of title 49, Code of Federal

1 Regulations (or a successor regula-  
2 tion));

3 “(III) a hazardous liquid pipe-  
4 line; or

5 “(IV) a carbon dioxide pipeline.

6 “(iv) HIGH CONSEQUENCE AREA.—

7 The term ‘high consequence area’ means—

8 “(I) with respect to a gas pipe-  
9 line facility, a high consequence area  
10 (as defined in section 192.903 of title  
11 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a  
12 successor regulation)); and

13 “(II) with respect to a hazardous  
14 liquid pipeline facility or relevant car-  
15 bon dioxide pipeline facility, a high  
16 consequence area (as defined in sec-  
17 tion 195.450 of title 49, Code of Fed-  
18 eral Regulations (or a successor regu-  
19 lation)).

20 “(B) ISOLATION OF PIPELINE SEG-  
21 MENTS.—Beginning on the date that is 5 years  
22 after the date of enactment of the Pipeline Ac-  
23 countability Act of 2025, an operator of a cov-  
24 ered pipeline any portion of which is in a cov-  
25 ered location shall, as soon as practicable, but

1 not later than 30 minutes after rupture identi-  
2 fication, fully isolate any ruptured pipeline seg-  
3 ment that is in a covered location, in order to  
4 minimize the volume of product released from  
5 the pipeline and mitigate the consequences of  
6 the rupture.

7 “(C) DEMONSTRATION OF COMPLIANCE.—

8 “(i) EXISTING PIPELINES IN COVERED  
9 LOCATIONS.—Not later than 5 years after  
10 the date of enactment of the Pipeline Ac-  
11 countability Act of 2025, each operator of  
12 a covered pipeline any portion of which is  
13 in a covered location as of that date of en-  
14 actment shall demonstrate the ability of  
15 the operator to comply with the require-  
16 ments of subparagraph (B).

17 “(ii) SUBSEQUENT DETERMINA-  
18 TIONS.—Beginning on the date of enact-  
19 ment of the Pipeline Accountability Act of  
20 2025, not later than 5 years after an exist-  
21 ing covered pipeline is determined to be in  
22 a covered location, the operator of that  
23 covered pipeline shall demonstrate the abil-  
24 ity of the operator to isolate the applicable  
25 segment of the covered pipeline not later

1 than 30 minutes after rupture identifica-  
2 tion, in accordance with subparagraph (B),  
3 unless the operator has received a waiver  
4 in accordance with subparagraph (D) with  
5 respect to the applicable segment that is in  
6 effect on the expiration of that 5-year pe-  
7 riod.

8 “(D) WAIVER ON REQUEST.—The Sec-  
9 retary may approve a waiver of the require-  
10 ments of subparagraphs (B) and (C) on the re-  
11 quest of an operator of a covered pipeline if the  
12 request—

13 “(i)(I) demonstrates, in the deter-  
14 mination of the Secretary, that meeting  
15 the 30-minute standard described in sub-  
16 paragraph (B) is operationally, techno-  
17 logically, or economically infeasible; and

18 “(II) describes the methodology used  
19 to reach, and the results of studies sup-  
20 porting, that conclusion;

21 “(ii)(I) includes the estimated—

22 “(aa) isolation time; and

23 “(bb) consequences of a worst-  
24 case scenario failure on the impacted

1 high consequence area or Class 3 or 4  
2 location; and

3 “(II) demonstrates that the operator  
4 has involved the local emergency services  
5 in developing those estimates;

6 “(iii) demonstrates that the public  
7 within the impacted area and the imme-  
8 diately surrounding areas has been in-  
9 formed of the consequences of a rupture  
10 and consulted with respect to a waiver, in-  
11 cluding by providing the estimated isola-  
12 tion time; and

13 “(iv) for a pipeline segment for which  
14 a rupture could affect a high consequence  
15 area that is an unusually sensitive area (as  
16 defined in section 195.6 of title 49, Code  
17 of Federal Regulations (or a successor reg-  
18 ulation)), demonstrates that relevant envi-  
19 ronmental and public safety groups have  
20 been informed of, and consulted with re-  
21 spect to, the consequences of a rupture  
22 and the request for a waiver.

23 “(E) EXPIRATION, RENEWAL, AND RE-  
24 QUIRED REVIEW.—

1           “(i) EXPIRATION.—A waiver granted  
2           by the Secretary under subparagraph (D)  
3           shall expire 5 years after the date on which  
4           the waiver was granted.

5           “(ii) RENEWAL.—A waiver granted by  
6           the Secretary under subparagraph (D)  
7           may be renewed on the submission by the  
8           operator of a new request in accordance  
9           with that subparagraph, subject to such re-  
10          vision as the Secretary determines to be  
11          appropriate based on a review of the re-  
12          quest.

13          “(iii) REQUIRED REVIEW.—

14                 “(I) IN GENERAL.—Not later  
15                 than 180 days after the occurrence of  
16                 an event described in subclause (II),  
17                 an operator receiving a waiver under  
18                 subparagraph (D) shall—

19                         “(aa) review the waiver; and

20                         “(bb) submit to the Sec-  
21                         retary a new request for a waiver  
22                         in accordance with that subpara-  
23                         graph, including such revisions as  
24                         the operator determines appro-  
25                         priate based on a review of the

1 applicable event described in that  
2 subclause.

3 “(II) EVENTS DESCRIBED.—An  
4 event referred to in subclause (I) is  
5 any of the following:

6 “(aa) A significant incident  
7 anywhere on the network of pipe-  
8 lines of the operator.

9 “(bb) A change in the oper-  
10 ational status of the applicable  
11 pipeline segment that may im-  
12 pact the safe operation of the  
13 pipeline facility or the con-  
14 sequences of a rupture.

15 “(cc) A change in the built  
16 or natural environment that may  
17 impact the safe operation of the  
18 pipeline facility or the con-  
19 sequences of a rupture.

20 “(dd) A change in the orga-  
21 nizational structure of the oper-  
22 ator, including a change in staff-  
23 ing levels or locations, that would  
24 affect the ability of the operator

1 to isolate the applicable pipeline  
2 segment within the required time.

3 “(III) REVIEW BY THE SEC-  
4 RETARY.—On receipt of a request  
5 under subclause (I)(bb), the Secretary  
6 shall—

7 “(aa) review the request;  
8 and

9 “(bb) as the Secretary deter-  
10 mines to be appropriate—

11 “(AA) grant a new  
12 waiver under subparagraph  
13 (D) with such revisions as  
14 the Secretary determines to  
15 be appropriate;

16 “(BB) revoke the exist-  
17 ing waiver and require com-  
18 pliance with subparagraphs  
19 (B) and (C); or

20 “(CC) require the sub-  
21 mission of a revised request  
22 by a date determined by the  
23 Secretary, addressing such  
24 matters as the Secretary de-  
25 termines to be appropriate.

1                   “(IV) EXPIRATION DUE TO INAC-  
2                   TION.—If an operator has not sub-  
3                   mitted to the Secretary a request in  
4                   accordance with item (bb) of sub-  
5                   clause (I) by the date described in  
6                   that subclause, the existing waiver  
7                   shall expire as of that date.

8                   “(F) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 2  
9                   years after the date of enactment of the Pipe-  
10                  line Accountability Act of 2025, the Secretary  
11                  shall promulgate new, or revise existing, regula-  
12                  tions to carry out this paragraph.”.

13 **SEC. 106. SAFETY OF CARBON DIOXIDE PIPELINES.**

14                  (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15                   (1) HIGH CONSEQUENCE AREA.—The term  
16                   “high consequence area” has the meaning given the  
17                   term in section 192.903 of title 49, Code of Federal  
18                   Regulations (or a successor regulation).

19                   (2) POTENTIAL IMPACT AREA.—The term “po-  
20                   tential impact area” means the area in which the po-  
21                   tential failure of a pipeline transporting carbon diox-  
22                   ide may be expected to have significant impact on  
23                   persons, property, or the environment.

24                   (3) REPORT.—The term “report” means the re-  
25                   port of the Accident Investigation Division of the Of-

1        fice of Pipeline Safety of the Administration entitled  
2        “Failure Investigation Report—Denbury Gulf Coast  
3        Pipelines LLC—Pipeline Rupture/Natural Force  
4        Damage” and dated May 26, 2022.

5        (b) COMPLETION OF RULEMAKING.—

6            (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months  
7        after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
8        retary shall—

9            (A) complete the rulemaking proceeding  
10        relating to the notice of proposed rulemaking  
11        issued on January 10, 2025, entitled “Pipeline  
12        Safety: Safety of Carbon Dioxide and Haz-  
13        ardous Liquid Pipelines” (Docket No.  
14        PHMSA–2022–0125; RIN 2137–AF60); and

15            (B) issue a final rule pursuant to that  
16        rulemaking proceeding, subject to the condi-  
17        tions that—

18            (i) in completing the rulemaking pro-  
19        ceeding and issuing the final rule, the Sec-  
20        retary shall take into consideration the  
21        measures described in paragraph (2); and

22            (ii) any substantive differences be-  
23        tween the final rule and the proposed rule,  
24        as published by the Administration on Jan-  
25        uary 10, 2025—

1 (I) effectuate a measure de-  
2 scribed in paragraph (2); and

3 (II) are responsive to the find-  
4 ings and recommendations in the re-  
5 port.

6 (2) MEASURES FOR CONSIDERATION.—In car-  
7 rying out paragraph (1), the Secretary shall con-  
8 sider, and may effectuate, the following measures:

9 (A) The establishment of minimum safety  
10 standards for all phases of carbon dioxide pipe-  
11 line transportation.

12 (B) The development of appropriate stand-  
13 ards for the determination of—

14 (i) a potential impact area, which may  
15 include the use of plume dispersion models  
16 and consideration of the impacts of local  
17 weather and topography;

18 (ii) the area in which a rupture may  
19 cause a sufficient concentration of carbon  
20 dioxide to create a risk of fatality;

21 (iii) high consequence areas;

22 (iv) pipeline segments that could af-  
23 fect high consequence areas; and

24 (v) the acceptable level of contami-  
25 nants in the pipeline.

1           (C) The development and required use of  
2           an effective, appropriate, and unique odorant,  
3           or other effective and appropriate means of leak  
4           detection, as determined through research and  
5           development.

6           (D) The establishment of measures to en-  
7           sure effective fracture propagation protection,  
8           including requirements relating to—

9                       (i) material toughness; and

10                      (ii) the use of fracture arrestors.

11           (E) The establishment of detailed safety  
12           standards for the conversion of existing pipe-  
13           lines for use in transporting carbon dioxide.

14           (F) The establishment of guidelines for  
15           emergency response plans and emergency re-  
16           sponder training for carbon dioxide pipeline  
17           leaks, ensuring that the relevant portions of  
18           emergency response plans are available to rel-  
19           evant emergency responders.

20           (3) OTHER CONSIDERATIONS.—In carrying out  
21           paragraph (1), including with respect to the matters  
22           described in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall con-  
23           sider—

24                       (A) which measures will ensure the max-  
25           imum protection of—

- 1 (i) public health;  
2 (ii) pipeline integrity; and  
3 (iii) the environment and public safe-  
4 ty, consistent with section 60102 of title  
5 49, United States Code; and

6 (B) whether the measures are responsive  
7 to the findings and recommendations in the re-  
8 port.

9 (c) OTHER REGULATIONS.—Not later than 2 years  
10 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall  
11 promulgate regulations—

12 (1) requiring operators of carbon dioxide pipe-  
13 lines—

14 (A) to identify and assess geohazards dur-  
15 ing initial pipeline siting;

16 (B) to monitor for changes in hazardous  
17 conditions that could impact pipeline safety;  
18 and

19 (C) to take preventive and mitigative meas-  
20 ures as appropriate;

21 (2) establishing reporting requirements relating  
22 to—

23 (A) the location of carbon dioxide pipelines  
24 and related facilities;

1 (B) the phase and material being trans-  
2 ported through those pipelines, including the  
3 type and quantity of contaminants; and

4 (C) how those pipelines and contents are  
5 inspected;

6 (3) establishing standards and notification re-  
7 quirements for cases in which the material being  
8 transported by a carbon dioxide pipeline is not pure  
9 carbon dioxide;

10 (4) requiring operators of carbon dioxide pipe-  
11 lines to notify and coordinate with relevant Federal,  
12 State, local, and Tribal officials and responders  
13 when there is an incident or accident; and

14 (5) requiring operators of carbon dioxide pipe-  
15 lines to notify individuals within the relevant poten-  
16 tial impact area of the hazards posed by carbon di-  
17 oxide pipelines and measures to take in the event of  
18 a pipeline rupture.

19 (d) TRAINING AND OTHER RESOURCES.—The Sec-  
20 retary shall provide training and other resources to rel-  
21 evant local emergency responders that is tailored specifi-  
22 cally to carbon dioxide pipeline ruptures, including infor-  
23 mation on the potential impact area, any relevant  
24 odorants, the health implications of exposure to high con-

1 concentrations of carbon dioxide, and the impact of high con-  
2 centrations of carbon dioxide on vehicle functioning.

3 **SEC. 107. BLENDING IN NATURAL GAS SYSTEMS.**

4 (a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United  
5 States shall—

6 (1) conduct a study of the short- and long-term  
7 safety, health, environmental, and climate change  
8 impacts and risks of blending hydrogen into existing  
9 natural gas systems; and

10 (2) not later than 3 years after the date of en-  
11 actment of this Act, submit to the Secretary and the  
12 appropriate committees of Congress a report describ-  
13 ing the results of the study, including—

14 (A) a description of any remaining knowl-  
15 edge gaps relating to safely moving hydrogen-  
16 methane blends through existing natural gas  
17 systems;

18 (B) a description of the safety risks of hy-  
19 drogen-methane blends in existing natural gas  
20 systems, including—

21 (i) leak rates of hydrogen-methane  
22 blends and associated environmental im-  
23 pacts;

24 (ii) the performance of hydrogen-  
25 methane blends in existing residential,

1 commercial, and industrial infrastructure;  
2 and

3 (iii) underground migration of leaked  
4 hydrogen-methane blends;

5 (C) a lifecycle analysis of hydrogen, includ-  
6 ing environmental and climate impacts and  
7 risks of blending hydrogen into existing natural  
8 gas systems, as compared to—

9 (i) the status quo; and

10 (ii) other pathways for greenhouse gas  
11 emissions reduction; and

12 (D) recommendations to the Secretary for  
13 how to avoid or minimize risks determined  
14 under paragraph (1).

15 (b) CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the study  
16 under subsection (a)(1), the Comptroller General of the  
17 United States shall take into consideration, at a minimum,  
18 the findings of the study on hydrogen blending commis-  
19 sioned by the California Public Utilities Commission and  
20 carried out by the University of California, Riverside, enti-  
21 tled “Hydrogen Blending Impacts Study” and dated July  
22 18, 2022.

23 (c) PROHIBITION.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—No pipeline operator may  
25 transport any quantity of hydrogen, other than trace

1 amounts present as a contaminant, through a nat-  
2 ural gas distribution pipeline system under the juris-  
3 diction of the Secretary unless and until Congress  
4 expressly provides, by statute, for the safe regulation  
5 of blending hydrogen into natural gas distribution  
6 pipeline systems.

7 (2) APPLICATION.—The prohibition described  
8 in paragraph (1) shall not apply to natural gas dis-  
9 tribution pipelines that—

10 (A) have been specifically designed to  
11 transport hydrogen above trace levels; and

12 (B) have been transporting hydrogen above  
13 trace levels for at least 10 years as of the date  
14 of enactment of this Act.

15 **SEC. 108. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF NATURAL**  
16 **GAS DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE SAFE-**  
17 **TY AND MODERNIZATION GRANT PROGRAM.**

18 (a) MODIFICATION.—The matter under the heading  
19 “NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY  
20 AND MODERNIZATION GRANT PROGRAM” under the head-  
21 ing “PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY AD-  
22 MINISTRATION” under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF  
23 TRANSPORTATION” in title VIII of division J of the  
24 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–  
25 58; 135 Stat. 1443) is amended—

1           (1) in the matter preceding the first proviso, by  
2           inserting “(referred to under this heading in this Act  
3           as the ‘Secretary’)” after “Secretary of Transpor-  
4           tation”;

5           (2) in the second proviso, by striking “to repair,  
6           rehabilitate, or replace its natural gas distribution  
7           pipeline system or portions thereof or to acquire  
8           equipment to (1) reduce incidents and fatalities and  
9           (2) avoid economic losses” and inserting “to repair,  
10          rehabilitate, replace, or retire its natural gas dis-  
11          tribution pipeline system or portions thereof or to  
12          acquire equipment to (1) reduce incidents and fatali-  
13          ties, (2) avoid economic losses, and (3) encourage  
14          non-emitting alternatives”; and

15          (3) by inserting after the second proviso the fol-  
16          lowing: “*Provided further*, That for purposes of the  
17          preceding proviso, the term ‘non-emitting alter-  
18          native’ means a technological or efficiency-related  
19          energy solution that does not entail the use of fossil  
20          fuels that are directly or indirectly related to the  
21          greenhouse effect, including electrification, renew-  
22          able energy sources, networked geothermal systems,  
23          storage, efficiency, and behavior change: *Provided*  
24          *further*, That the promotion or encouragement of  
25          non-emitting alternatives (as defined in the pre-

1 ceding proviso) may include workforce training pro-  
2 grams: *Provided further*, That in making grants  
3 from funds made available under this heading in this  
4 Act, the Secretary shall give additional consideration  
5 to an applicant if all workers employed or contracted  
6 by the applicant are paid wages at rates not less  
7 than those prevailing on projects of a similar char-  
8 acter in the locality as determined by the Secretary  
9 of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chap-  
10 ter 31 of title 40, United States Code, and to work-  
11 force training programs that comply with appren-  
12 ticeship requirements similar to the apprenticeship  
13 requirements described in section 45(b)(8) of the In-  
14 ternal Revenue Code of 1986, as determined or es-  
15 tablished by the Secretary for purposes of making  
16 those grants.”.

17 (b) REQUIREMENT.—Of the amounts made available  
18 by subsection (c) each fiscal year, not less than 20 percent  
19 shall be used for non-emitting alternatives (as defined in  
20 the third proviso under the heading “NATURAL GAS DIS-  
21 TRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY AND MODERNIZA-  
22 TION GRANT PROGRAM” under the heading “PIPELINE  
23 AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION”  
24 under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPOR-  
25 TATION” in title VIII of division J of the Infrastructure

1 Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–58; 135 Stat.  
2 1443)).

3 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—

4 There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the  
5 Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Mod-  
6 ernization Grant Program described under the heading  
7 “NATURAL GAS DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUCTURE SAFETY  
8 AND MODERNIZATION GRANT PROGRAM” under the head-  
9 ing “PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY AD-  
10 MINISTRATION” under the heading “DEPARTMENT OF  
11 TRANSPORTATION” in title VIII of division J of the  
12 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117–  
13 58; 135 Stat. 1443)—

14 (1) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2027, to re-  
15 main available until September 30, 2036;

16 (2) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2028, to re-  
17 main available until September 30, 2037;

18 (3) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2029, to re-  
19 main available until September 30, 2038;

20 (4) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2030, to re-  
21 main available until September 30, 2039; and

22 (5) \$200,000,000 for fiscal year 2031, to re-  
23 main available until September 30, 2040.

1 **SEC. 109. RULEMAKING ON UNDERGROUND NATURAL GAS**  
2 **STORAGE.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the  
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promul-  
5 gate new, or revise existing, regulations to address under-  
6 ground natural gas storage.

7 (b) REQUIREMENT.—In carrying out subsection (a),  
8 the Secretary shall review and consider relevant technical  
9 and scientific information on the safety of underground  
10 natural gas storage, including the most recently updated  
11 version of each of the following:

12 (1) The standard of the American Petroleum  
13 Institute entitled “Design and Operation of Solu-  
14 tion-mined Salt Caverns used for Natural Gas Stor-  
15 age” and numbered API Recommended Practice  
16 1170.

17 (2) The standard of the American Petroleum  
18 Institute entitled “Functional Integrity of Natural  
19 Gas Storage in Depleted Hydrocarbon Reservoirs  
20 and Aquifer Reservoirs” and numbered API Rec-  
21 ommended Practice 1171.

22 (c) TOPICS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the Sec-  
23 retary shall review and consider updates to existing regu-  
24 lations relating to risk management, emergency response,  
25 and ensuring that underground natural gas storage wells  
26 do not pose undue risks from single points of failure.

1 **TITLE II—PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**  
2 **AND TRANSPARENCY**

3 **SEC. 201. OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 108 of title 49, United  
5 States Code, is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by inserting “(referred to  
7 in this section as the ‘Administration’)” after “Safe-  
8 ty Administration”;

9 (2) in subsection (c), in the first sentence, by  
10 inserting “(referred to in this section as the ‘Admin-  
11 istrator’),” after “shall be the Administrator”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(h) OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.—

14 “(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

15 “(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
16 GRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of  
17 Congress’ has the meaning given the term in  
18 section 2 of the Pipeline Accountability Act of  
19 2025.

20 “(B) COVERED FACILITY.—The term ‘cov-  
21 ered facility’ means—

22 “(i) a covered pipeline (as defined in  
23 section 60109(c)(12)(A));

1           “(ii) a liquefied natural gas pipeline  
2           facility (as defined in section 60101(a));  
3           and

4           “(iii) an underground natural gas  
5           storage facility (as defined in section  
6           60101(a)).

7           “(C) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’  
8           means the Director of the Office appointed  
9           under paragraph (3).

10           “(D) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE COMMU-  
11           NITY.—The term ‘environmental justice com-  
12           munity’ means a community with significant  
13           representation of communities of color, low-in-  
14           come communities, or Tribal and Indigenous  
15           communities, that experiences, or is at risk of  
16           experiencing, higher or more adverse human  
17           health or environmental effects.

18           “(E) INCIDENT.—The term ‘incident’ has  
19           the meaning given the term in section 191.3 of  
20           title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a suc-  
21           cessor regulation).

22           “(F) LOW-INCOME COMMUNITY.—The  
23           term ‘low-income community’ means a census  
24           block group in which 30 percent or more of the  
25           population are individuals with an annual

1 household income equal to, or less than, the  
2 greatest of—

3 “(i) an amount equal to 80 percent of  
4 the median income of the area in which the  
5 household is located, as reported by the  
6 Department of Housing and Urban Devel-  
7 opment;

8 “(ii) 200 percent of the Federal pov-  
9 erty line; and

10 “(iii) a level of income higher than the  
11 levels described in clauses (i) and (ii), as  
12 determined by the Secretary.

13 “(G) OFFICE.—The term ‘Office’ means  
14 the Office of Public Engagement of the Admin-  
15 istration established under paragraph (2).

16 “(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
18 after the date of enactment of this subsection,  
19 the Administrator shall establish within the Ad-  
20 ministration an office, to be known as the ‘Of-  
21 fice of Public Engagement’.

22 “(B) PROCESS.—Before establishing the  
23 Office under subparagraph (A), the Adminis-  
24 trator shall—

1           “(i) seek and incorporate public input  
2           regarding the responsibilities of the Office,  
3           including through in-person public meet-  
4           ings, prioritizing input from individuals  
5           without financial interests in the pipeline,  
6           petroleum, ethanol, or gas industries, in-  
7           cluding environmental justice communities  
8           and experts in community engagement;  
9           and

10           “(ii) submit to the appropriate com-  
11           mittees of Congress a summary of the  
12           input received pursuant to clause (i) and  
13           an explanation of how that input will be in-  
14           tegrated into the establishment of the Of-  
15           fice.

16           “(C) COMPENSATION.—The Administrator  
17           may provide reasonable compensation for those  
18           providing input pursuant to subparagraph (B)  
19           in order to facilitate the participation of envi-  
20           ronmental justice communities.

21           “(3) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by  
22           a Director, who shall—

23                   “(A) be appointed by the Administrator;

24                   “(B) report to the Associate Administrator  
25           for Pipeline Safety; and

1           “(C) be responsible for the discharge of the  
2           functions and duties of the Office.

3           “(4) EMPLOYEES.—The Director may appoint,  
4           and assign the duties of, employees of the Office.

5           “(5) DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF THE OF-  
6           FICE.—

7           “(A) COORDINATION OF ASSISTANCE.—  
8           The Director shall coordinate the provision of  
9           assistance, including financial assistance, tech-  
10          nical assistance, and educational assistance to  
11          the public, with respect to the authorities exer-  
12          cised by the Administration, including by  
13          proactive and targeted community outreach  
14          that incorporates—

15                   “(i) accessible communications;

16                   “(ii) the provision of in-person and  
17                   online communications; and

18                   “(iii) translations to languages spoken  
19                   by impacted populations.

20          “(B) PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.—The Direc-  
21          tor shall coordinate active and ongoing engage-  
22          ment with the public with respect to the author-  
23          ity and activities of the Administration, includ-  
24          ing by—

25                   “(i) conducting—

1           “(I) proactive outreach, which  
2           may include public postings, signage  
3           at relevant physical locations, news-  
4           paper publications, utility bill inserts,  
5           mailings, phone calls, canvassing, and  
6           door hangers, to communities, espe-  
7           cially environmental justice commu-  
8           nities, using varied media; and

9           “(II) meetings, set at times and  
10          places to maximize the number of  
11          community members who can conven-  
12          iently attend, with appropriate serv-  
13          ices, including, if the Director deter-  
14          mines it would have a meaningful im-  
15          pact on participation by members of  
16          affected environmental justice commu-  
17          nities—

18                   “(aa) translation and inter-  
19                   preting services;

20                   “(bb) virtual attendance;  
21                   and

22                   “(cc) reasonable funding for  
23                   transportation to and from meet-  
24                   ings, food, and caregiving;

1           “(ii) establishing an independent, neu-  
2           tral, accessible, confidential, and standard-  
3           ized process to receive, review, process, and  
4           follow up on inquiries, complaints, and al-  
5           legations with respect to the activities of  
6           the Administration and entities regulated  
7           by the Administration, including with re-  
8           spect to cracks and leaks in pipeline infra-  
9           structure identified by workers and com-  
10          munity members;

11           “(iii) assisting individuals in respond-  
12          ing to and resolving inquiries, complaints,  
13          and allegations described in clause (ii);

14           “(iv) making publicly available, and  
15          proactively disseminating, information on  
16          the manner in which members of the public  
17          may file inquiries, complaints, and allega-  
18          tions;

19           “(v) coordinating with the Federal  
20          Energy Regulatory Commission, State  
21          agencies, and, as necessary, other agencies  
22          to direct public inquiries that are not with-  
23          in the jurisdiction of the Administration to  
24          the relevant agency;

1 “(vi) preparing, and making publicly  
2 available in accessible formats, educational  
3 materials about the Administration, the re-  
4 sponsibilities of the Administration, and  
5 how those responsibilities interact with en-  
6 tities under the jurisdiction of the Admin-  
7 istration and other Federal, State, local, or  
8 Tribal government agencies;

9 “(vii) assisting local first responders,  
10 local officials, and community members—

11 “(I) to develop their own emer-  
12 gency management plans; and

13 “(II) to prepare to respond to all  
14 potential adverse scenarios relating to  
15 covered facility malfunctions, includ-  
16 ing to evacuate on short notice if nec-  
17 essary; and

18 “(viii) making publicly available, and  
19 proactively disseminating, information on  
20 local evacuation plans to the surrounding  
21 community.

22 “(C) POST-INCIDENT SUPPORT.—The Di-  
23 rector shall facilitate, including by directing im-  
24 pacted individuals to the appropriate agency  
25 and coordinating with relevant counterparts at

1 other agencies, appropriate remediation, envi-  
2 ronmental testing, and assistance with com-  
3 pensation in the case of leaks, incidents, acci-  
4 dents, or other relevant events.”.

5 (b) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is  
6 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry  
7 out section 108(h) of title 49, United States Code,  
8 \$12,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through 2028.

9 **SEC. 202. PUBLIC HEARINGS ON PROPOSED RULES.**

10 Section 60104 of title 49, United States Code, is  
11 amended—

12 (1) in subsection (a)—

13 (A) by striking “The Secretary of Trans-  
14 portation” and inserting the following:

15 “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary”; and

16 (B) by adding at the end the following:

17 “(2) **PUBLIC HEARINGS.**—In proposing rules  
18 under this chapter, including revisions to those  
19 rules, the Secretary shall hold at least 1 public hear-  
20 ing to address each proposed rule or revision.”; and

21 (2) in each of subsections (d)(1) and (e), by  
22 striking “Secretary of Transportation” each place it  
23 appears and inserting “Secretary”.

1 **SEC. 203. DISCLOSURE OF SAFETY DATA.**

2 Section 60132 of title 49, United States Code, is  
3 amended—

4 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “subsection  
5 (a)” and inserting “subparagraph (A)”;

6 (2) by redesignating subsection (b) as subpara-  
7 graph (C) and indenting appropriately;

8 (3) in subsection (a)—

9 (A) in paragraph (4), in the second sen-  
10 tence, by striking “The Secretary” and insert-  
11 ing the following:

12 “(B) NOTICE REQUIREMENT.—With re-  
13 spect to data requested from operators under  
14 subparagraph (A)(vi), the Secretary”;

15 (B) by redesignating paragraphs (1)  
16 through (4) as clauses (i), (ii), (v), and (vi), re-  
17 spectively, and indenting appropriately;

18 (C) by inserting after clause (ii) (as so re-  
19 designated) the following:

20 “(iii) Information on the matters de-  
21 scribed in paragraph (2)(E).

22 “(iv) The location and type of any  
23 valves installed on the pipeline.”; and

24 (D) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as  
25 so redesignated)—

26 (i) by striking “and gathering lines”;

1 (ii) by striking “of Transportation”;  
2 and  
3 (iii) by striking the subsection des-  
4 ignation and heading and all that follows  
5 through “this section, the” and inserting  
6 the following:

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) CLASS LOCATION.—The term ‘class loca-  
9 tion’ means a class location described in section  
10 192.5 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a  
11 successor regulation).

12 “(2) COVERED FACILITY.—The term ‘covered  
13 facility’ means—

14 “(A) a covered pipeline (as defined in sec-  
15 tion 60109(c)(12)(A));

16 “(B) a liquefied natural gas pipeline facil-  
17 ity; and

18 “(C) an underground natural gas storage  
19 facility.

20 “(3) HIGH CONSEQUENCE AREA.—The term  
21 ‘high consequence area’ means—

22 “(A) with respect to a gas pipeline facility,  
23 a high consequence area (as defined in section  
24 192.903 of title 49, Code of Federal Regula-  
25 tions (or a successor regulation)); and

1           “(B) with respect to a hazardous liquid  
2           pipeline facility or relevant carbon dioxide pipe-  
3           line facility, a high consequence area (as de-  
4           fined in section 195.450 of title 49, Code of  
5           Federal Regulations (or a successor regula-  
6           tion)).

7           “(4) MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE OPERATING PRES-  
8           SURE.—The term ‘maximum allowable operating  
9           pressure’ has the meaning given the term in section  
10          192.3 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations (or a  
11          successor regulation).

12          “(5) MAXIMUM OPERATING PRESSURE.—The  
13          term ‘maximum operating pressure’ has the meaning  
14          given the term in section 195.2 of title 49, Code of  
15          Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

16          “(6) MODERATE CONSEQUENCE AREA.—The  
17          term ‘moderate consequence area’ has the meaning  
18          given the term in section 192.3 of title 49, Code of  
19          Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation).

20          “(7) POTENTIAL IMPACT AREA.—The term ‘po-  
21          tential impact area’ means the area in which the po-  
22          tential failure of a pipeline may be expected to have  
23          a significant impact on persons, property, or the en-  
24          vironment (as defined in section 2 of the Pipeline  
25          Accountability Act of 2025).

1           “(8) POTENTIAL IMPACT RADIUS.—The term  
2           ‘potential impact radius’ has the meaning given the  
3           term in section 192.903 of title 49, Code of Federal  
4           Regulations (or a successor regulation).

5           “(b) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED.—

6           “(1) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED TO THE  
7           SECRETARY.—

8           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The”;

9           (4) in subsection (b) (as so designated), by add-  
10          ing at the end the following:

11          “(2) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED TO THE  
12          PUBLIC.—

13                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
14                 after the date of enactment of the Pipeline Ac-  
15                 countability Act of 2025, each operator of a  
16                 covered facility shall provide to the public, free  
17                 of charge, on a publicly accessible website, in a  
18                 simple and consolidated form—

19                         “(i) information about the substances  
20                         being transported by pipelines managed by  
21                         the operator, including any blended prod-  
22                         ucts, any relevant odorants, and any con-  
23                         taminants;

24                         “(ii) the plans that have been made  
25                         for the decommissioning of—

1                   “(I) each abandoned pipeline of  
2                   the operator; and

3                   “(II) each removed or remediated  
4                   pipeline of the operator;

5                   “(iii) contact information for the oper-  
6                   ator and the Pipeline and Hazardous Ma-  
7                   terials Safety Administration;

8                   “(iv) relevant portions of operator  
9                   emergency response plans needed by the  
10                  public to prepare State, local, commercial,  
11                  nonprofit, and personal emergency re-  
12                  sponse plans;

13                  “(v) information about how far build-  
14                  ings are required to be set back from a  
15                  pipeline; and

16                  “(vi) for carbon dioxide pipelines—

17                         “(I) the results of any dispersion  
18                         modeling performed; and

19                         “(II) any estimates of the zone in  
20                         which carbon dioxide concentrations  
21                         could be fatal in the event of a pipe-  
22                         line rupture.

23                   “(B) UPDATES.—The information provided  
24                   under subparagraph (A) shall be updated as

1           necessary, but not less frequently than once  
2           each year.

3           “(C) ANNUAL NOTIFICATION.—

4                   “(i) IN GENERAL.—Each operator of  
5                   a covered facility shall, not less frequently  
6                   than annually, provide to the recipients de-  
7                   scribed in clause (ii) a notification that in-  
8                   cludes all information described in sub-  
9                   paragraph (A) with respect to the covered  
10                  facility.

11                   “(ii) RECIPIENTS DESCRIBED.—The  
12                  recipients referred to in clause (i) are—

13                           “(I) the Secretary;

14                           “(II) the owners of all occupied  
15                           residences and operational commercial  
16                           structures that, in the determination  
17                           of the Secretary, could be impacted by  
18                           a rupture or explosion of the applica-  
19                           ble covered facility;

20                           “(III) any tenants of those struc-  
21                           tures; and

22                           “(IV) relevant first responders.

23                   “(iii) REQUIREMENT.—A notification  
24                  under clause (i) shall include—

1           “(I) a description of the changes  
2           from the previous notification pro-  
3           vided under that clause, if applicable;

4           “(II) a statement of the rel-  
5           evant—

6                   “(aa) legal duties of the op-  
7                   erator; and

8                   “(bb) legal rights of, as ap-  
9                   plicable—

10                   “(AA) the owners and  
11                   residents of the occupied  
12                   residences; or

13                   “(BB) the owners, ten-  
14                   ants, and manager of the  
15                   operational       commercial  
16                   structure; and

17           “(III) a statement informing the  
18           recipient of the additional information  
19           that the recipient may request under  
20           subparagraph (D).

21           “(D) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—On the  
22           request of any person, an operator of a pipeline  
23           facility shall provide to that person—

1           “(i) the information described in sub-  
2 paragraph (A) with respect to all pipeline  
3 facilities of the operator; and

4           “(ii) pipeline safety information, in-  
5 cluding—

6                 “(I) information on the matters  
7 described in subparagraph (E) with  
8 respect to each pipeline facility oper-  
9 ated by the operator;

10                “(II) educational material relat-  
11 ing to the matters described in that  
12 subparagraph to better inform the  
13 public about the information disclosed  
14 under subclause (I), provided in a  
15 simple and consolidated form; and

16                “(III) a description of how the  
17 information described in subclause (I)  
18 was acquired or determined, including  
19 any formulas used and any tests car-  
20 ried out.

21           “(E) MATTERS DESCRIBED.—The matters  
22 referred to in subparagraph (D)(ii)(I) and para-  
23 graph (1)(A)(iii) include—

24                 “(i) high consequence areas;

25                 “(ii) moderate consequence areas;

- 1 “(iii) potential impact radii and po-  
2 tential impact areas;
- 3 “(iv) class locations;
- 4 “(v) pipe size;
- 5 “(vi) the date of pipeline construction;
- 6 “(vii) the history of incidents, acci-  
7 dents, and repairs on the pipeline;
- 8 “(viii) geohazards that may impact  
9 pipeline safety;
- 10 “(ix) pressure information, includ-  
11 ing—
- 12 “(I) maximum operating pres-  
13 sure; and
- 14 “(II) maximum allowable oper-  
15 ating pressure;
- 16 “(x) with respect to gathering lines,  
17 the types of gathering lines, including Type  
18 A, Type B, Type C, and Type R pipelines;
- 19 “(xi) the health, safety, and environ-  
20 ment management programs of the oper-  
21 ator; and
- 22 “(xii) any other matter that—
- 23 “(I) relates to the safety and reli-  
24 ability of a pipeline facility under the  
25 jurisdiction of the Secretary; and

1                   “(II) in the determination of the  
2                   Secretary, is in the public interest to  
3                   be disclosed.

4                   “(F) DEADLINE.—Not later than 90 days  
5                   after receiving a request under subparagraph  
6                   (D), an operator of a pipeline facility shall pro-  
7                   vide the information required to be disclosed  
8                   under that subparagraph to the person making  
9                   the request.

10                  “(3) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 2 years  
11                  after the date of enactment of the Pipeline Account-  
12                  ability Act of 2025, the Secretary shall promulgate  
13                  regulations to carry out this subsection, including  
14                  providing for standardized formats for operators to  
15                  release information to the public.”;

16                  (5) in subsection (d)—

17                         (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
18                         “HIGH-CONSEQUENCE” and inserting “HIGH  
19                         CONSEQUENCE”;

20                         (B) in paragraph (1)—

21                                 (i) by striking “high-consequence  
22                                 areas (as described in section 60109(a))”  
23                                 and inserting “high consequence areas”;  
24                                 and

25                                 (ii) by striking “and” at the end;

1 (C) in paragraph (2), by striking the pe-  
2 riod at the end and inserting “; and”; and

3 (D) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(3) make the map available to the public on an  
5 internet website, in a machine-readable format, as  
6 part of the National Pipeline Mapping System Pub-  
7 lic Map Viewer or at an alternative location.”; and

8 (6) in subsection (f), by striking “subsection  
9 (a)” and inserting “subsection (b)(1)”.

10 **SEC. 204. REPORTING OF BLENDED PRODUCTS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—All operators of natural gas pipe-  
12 lines shall report to the Secretary blended, non-predomi-  
13 nant products that exceed, at any point in time, 1 percent  
14 by volume of the product transported by the pipeline.

15 (b) RULEMAKING.—The Secretary may promulgate  
16 new, or revise existing, regulations to implement the re-  
17 quirements of subsection (a).

18 **SEC. 205. INCIDENT REPORTING FOR GAS PIPELINES.**

19 (a) DEFINITION OF GAS.—In this section, the term  
20 “gas” has the meaning given the term in section 60101(a)  
21 of title 49, United States Code.

22 (b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 1 year after the  
23 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promul-  
24 gate new, or revise existing, regulations to require opera-  
25 tors of gas pipelines—

1 (1) to meet incident reporting standards that  
2 require those operators to report all gas releases of  
3 50,000 cubic feet or more, regardless of any intent  
4 of the operator or any other person with respect to  
5 the release; and

6 (2) to report—

7 (A) all incidents resulting in fire or explo-  
8 sion;

9 (B) all incidents resulting in property dam-  
10 age of \$50,000 or more in value; and

11 (C) all incidents resulting in bodily harm  
12 to any person resulting in—

13 (i) loss of consciousness;

14 (ii) necessity to carry a person from  
15 the scene;

16 (iii) necessity for medical treatment;

17 or

18 (iv) disability that prevents the dis-  
19 charge of normal duties or the pursuit of  
20 normal duties beyond the day of the inci-  
21 dent.

## 22 **TITLE III—ACCOUNTABILITY**

### 23 **SEC. 301. PROHIBITION AGAINST RELEASES.**

24 Section 60118(a) of title 49, United States Code, is  
25 amended—

1           (1) in paragraph (4), by striking the period at  
2 the end and inserting “; and”;

3           (2) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through  
4 (4) as subparagraphs (A) through (D), respectively,  
5 and indenting appropriately;

6           (3) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A)  
7 (as so redesignated), by striking “facility shall—”  
8 and inserting the following: “facility—

9           “(1) shall—”; and

10          (4) by adding at the end the following:

11          “(2) shall not release gas or hazardous liquid  
12 from a pipeline facility in a quantity that would re-  
13 quire the reporting of an incident or accident under  
14 a regulation prescribed under this chapter.”.

15 **SEC. 302. ACTIONS BY PRIVATE PERSONS.**

16          Section 60121 of title 49, United States Code, is  
17 amended—

18          (1) in subsection (a)—

19               (A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and  
20 (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

21               (B) in paragraph (1), by striking “(1) A  
22 person” and all that follows through “However,  
23 the person” in the second sentence and insert-  
24 ing the following:

1           “(1) CIVIL ACTION.—A person may bring a civil  
2           action in an appropriate district court of the United  
3           States for all appropriate relief, including civil pen-  
4           alties and injunctive relief, against—

5                   “(A) another person (including the United  
6                   States Government and other governmental au-  
7                   thorities to the extent permitted under the  
8                   Eleventh Amendment to the Constitution of the  
9                   United States) for a violation of this chapter or  
10                  a regulation prescribed or order issued under  
11                  this chapter; or

12                  “(B) the Secretary where there is alleged  
13                  a failure of the Secretary to perform any act or  
14                  duty under this chapter that is nondis-  
15                  cretionary.

16           “(2) REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS.—With  
17           respect to a civil action described in paragraph (1),  
18           a person”;

19                   (C) in paragraph (2) (as so designated), by  
20                   indenting subparagraphs (A) through (C) ap-  
21                   propriately;

22                   (D) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated),  
23                   by striking the paragraph designation and all  
24                   that follows through “The Secretary shall” and  
25                   inserting the following:

1 “(3) NOTICE.—The Secretary shall”;

2 (E) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated),  
3 by striking the paragraph designation and all  
4 that follows through “The Secretary, with” and  
5 inserting the following:

6 “(4) INTERVENTION.—The Secretary, with”;

7 and

8 (F) by adding at the end the following:

9 “(5) JURISDICTION.—The district courts of the  
10 United States shall have jurisdiction, without regard  
11 to the amount in controversy or the citizenship of  
12 the parties—

13 “(A) to enforce a pipeline safety standard  
14 or limitation established under this chapter;

15 “(B) to enforce a regulation prescribed or  
16 order issued under this chapter;

17 “(C) to order the Secretary to perform any  
18 act or duty under this chapter; and

19 “(D) to impose any appropriate civil pen-  
20 alties under section 60122.”;

21 (2) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (1) and  
23 (2) as subparagraphs (A) and (B), respectively,  
24 and indenting appropriately;

1 (B) in the matter preceding subparagraph  
2 (A) (as so redesignated), in the first sentence,  
3 by striking “The court” and inserting the fol-  
4 lowing:

5 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The court”; and

6 (C) in paragraph (1) (as so designated), in  
7 the matter preceding subparagraph (A) (as so  
8 redesignated), by striking, “The court may  
9 award costs to” in the second sentence and all  
10 that follows through “In this subsection” in the  
11 third sentence and inserting the following:

12 “(2) REASONABLE ATTORNEY’S FEE.—For pur-  
13 poses of paragraph (1)”; and

14 (3) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(e) VENUE; INTERVENTION BY THE SECRETARY.—

16 “(1) VENUE.—Any action under this section  
17 may be brought in—

18 “(A) the district court of the United States  
19 for the judicial district in which the violation  
20 occurred; or

21 “(B) the United States District Court for  
22 the District of Columbia.

23 “(2) INTERVENTION BY THE SECRETARY.—If  
24 the Secretary is not a party to an action described

1 in paragraph (1), the Secretary may intervene in  
2 that action as a matter of right.

3 “(f) NONRESTRICTION OF OTHER RIGHTS.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise limited  
5 by section 60104(c), nothing in this section restricts  
6 any right that any person (or class of persons) may  
7 have under any statute or the common law—

8 “(A) to seek enforcement of any standard  
9 or limitation; or

10 “(B) to seek any other relief (including re-  
11 lief against the Secretary or a State agency).

12 “(2) STATE, LOCAL, AND INTERSTATE AUTHOR-  
13 ITY.—Except as otherwise limited by section  
14 60104(c), nothing in this section shall be construed  
15 to prohibit, exclude, or restrict any State, local, or  
16 interstate authority from—

17 “(A) bringing any enforcement action or  
18 obtaining any judicial remedy or sanction in  
19 any State or local court; or

20 “(B) bringing any administrative enforce-  
21 ment action or obtaining any administrative  
22 remedy or sanction in any State or local admin-  
23 istrative agency, department, or instrumentality  
24 under any State or local law relating to pipeline  
25 safety against—

1 “(i) the United States;

2 “(ii) any department, agency, or in-  
3 strumentality of the United States; or

4 “(iii) any officer, agent, or employee  
5 of the United States.”.

6 **SEC. 303. PENALTIES.**

7 (a) **MAXIMUM CIVIL PENALTY FOR A RELATED SE-**  
8 **RIES OF VIOLATIONS.**—Section 60122(a)(1) of title 49,  
9 United States Code, is amended by striking the third sen-  
10 tence.

11 (b) **RULEMAKING.**—Not later than 180 days after the  
12 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall revise  
13 subpart B of part 190 of title 49, Code of Federal Regula-  
14 tions, in accordance with the amendment made by sub-  
15 section (a).

○