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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To direct the Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to establish a grant program to facilitate the improved safety and modernization of hazardous liquid distribution infrastructure, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. FITZPATRICK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to establish a grant program to facilitate the improved safety and modernization of hazardous liquid distribution infrastructure, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Wojnovich Pipeline
5 Safety Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. HAZARDOUS LIQUID DISTRIBUTION INFRASTRUC-**
2 **TURE SAFETY AND MODERNIZATION GRANT**
3 **PROGRAM.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator of the
5 Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
6 shall establish a grant program to facilitate the improved
7 safety and modernization of hazardous liquid distribution
8 infrastructure.

9 (b) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may award a
11 grant to—

12 (A) a municipality in a State that carries
13 out the disclosures described in section 4; or

14 (B) a community-owned utility that is not
15 a for-profit entity in such State.

16 (2) PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.—An eligi-
17 ble recipient described in paragraph (1) may engage
18 in public-private partnerships while carrying out a
19 project using funds provided under this section.

20 (c) SELECTION OF ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—

21 (1) NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY.—Not
22 later than 180 days after the date on which funds
23 are made available to carry out the program, the
24 Secretary shall publish a notice of funding oppor-
25 tunity for the funds.

1 (2) APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall estab-
2 lish a procedure for awarding grants that takes into
3 consideration—

4 (A) the risk profile of the existing pipeline
5 system operated by the applicant, including the
6 presence of pipe prone to leakage;

7 (B) the potential of the project for creating
8 jobs; and

9 (C) economic impact or growth.

10 (d) AWARDS.—

11 (1) NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY.—Not
12 later than 180 days after each date on which the
13 funds to carry out this section are made available,
14 the Secretary shall issue a notice of funding oppor-
15 tunity.

16 (2) DETERMINATION.—Not later than 270 days
17 after issuing a notices of funding opportunity under
18 subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall make awards.

19 (3) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall award
20 not more than 12.5 percent of the funds available
21 under this program to a single municipality or com-
22 munity-owned utility.

23 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
2 appropriated to carry out this section \$100 million
3 for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030.

4 (2) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than 2
5 percent of the amounts made available each fiscal
6 year to carry out this section may be used to pay the
7 administrative costs of carrying out the program.

8 (3) INSPECTOR GENERAL OVERSIGHT.—The
9 Secretary shall transfer one-half of one percent of
10 the amounts provided to carry out this program in
11 each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to the in-
12 spector general of the Department of Transportation
13 for oversight of funding provided to the Department
14 of Transportation.

15 **SEC. 3. UPDATE WEBSITE.**

16 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
17 shall update the website of the Pipeline and Hazardous
18 Materials Safety Administration to increase the ease of
19 use and public accessibility of the website.

20 (b) REPORTING.—In updating the website under
21 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall require—

22 (1) easily readable reporting of each accident
23 and incident, including information on the details of
24 such accident or incident; and

1 (2) with respect to each accident or incident, a
2 remediation status update to be provided by opera-
3 tors and posted on the website not less than every
4 90 days until the remediation is complete.

5 **SEC. 4. PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND PREPAREDNESS.**

6 (a) REAL ESTATE DISCLOSURE.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to participate
8 in the grant program established under section 2, a
9 State shall require each real estate contract to in-
10 clude the disclosure of any known hazardous liquid
11 pipeline easements regulated by the Pipeline and
12 Hazardous Materials Safety Administration that are
13 within one-half mile of the boundary of the property
14 subject to such contract.

15 (2) CONTENT.—The notice shall include—

16 (A) the name and contact information of
17 the operator;

18 (B) the name of the pipeline and the sub-
19 stance in the pipeline;

20 (C) whether the pipeline has undergone re-
21 pairs in the 10 years prior to the date of sub-
22 mission of the notice; and

23 (D) a list of any leaks, failures, accidents,
24 or incidents the operator has had within the
25 State in the last 10 years.

1 (3) INFORMATION AVAILABILITY.—The Admin-
2 istrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
3 Safety Administration shall ensure the information
4 required under paragraph (2) is collected and made
5 publicly available on a website of the Administration.

6 (b) EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLANS.—Section
7 60102(d)(5) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

8 (1) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and” at
9 the end; and

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

11 “(D) a community involvement strategy
12 detailing how the operator will inform and liaise
13 with landowners and homeowners impacted by a
14 release; and”.

15 (c) EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM.—Not later than 18
16 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
17 retary shall issue a final rule requiring each operator of
18 a hazardous liquid pipeline facility to—

19 (1) establish and maintain a localized emer-
20 gency alert system to send an alert to communities
21 within 1 mile of a pipeline of any leaks, failures, ac-
22 cidents, or incidents; or

23 (2) establish an agreement with each State in
24 which the operator operates in which such State

1 agrees to use an alert system of the State to send
2 such alert.

3 (d) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 18 months after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue
5 a final rule that requires—

6 (1) a standard, timely process or procedure for
7 pipeline operators to conduct in-person tests of
8 water, soil, or air for potential pipeline leaks or fail-
9 ures;

10 (2) in the case of an in-person water test—

11 (A) the test to be conducted on any well
12 within one-half mile of a leak, accident, inci-
13 dent, or failure; and

14 (B) samples to be taken from both the top
15 and the bottom of such well;

16 (3) annual in-line inspection tool tests for pipe-
17 lines older than 50 years or wherever a sleeve repair
18 has been made; and

19 (4) notifying impacted residents and landowners
20 when a test comes back positive for contaminated
21 water, soil, or air.

22 **SEC. 5. PENALTY FOR ACCIDENT.**

23 The Secretary shall levy a penalty in the amount of
24 \$2,500,000 against an operator of a hazardous liquid

1 pipeline facility that declares a leak, accident, incident, or
2 failure.

3 (1) FREQUENCY.—The penalty shall be levied
4 on an annual basis until the Secretary certifies that
5 such leak, accident, incident, or failure has been re-
6 mediated.

7 (2) DOUBLE PENALTY.—In the case of any op-
8 erator which does not declare a leak, accident, inci-
9 dent, or failure within 15 days of the operator know-
10 ing that such a leak, accident, incident, or failure
11 has occurred, the penalty shall be in the amount of
12 \$5,000,000.

13 **SEC. 6. EMERGENCY REIMBURSEMENT.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the
15 date on which the Pipelines and Hazardous Materials
16 Safety Administration is provided a declaration by an op-
17 erator of a hazardous liquid pipeline facility that an event
18 has occurred, the Secretary shall make available funds to
19 reimburse an eligible entity for the following:

20 (1) The cost of replacing equipment that is
21 damaged, contaminated, or otherwise rendered unus-
22 able as a result of the response of the eligible entity
23 to an event.

1 (2) Overtime pay for firefighters, law enforce-
2 ment officers, or other emergency responders who
3 work at the scene of an event.

4 (3) Operational costs for actions taken to re-
5 spond to an event.

6 (4) Any other purpose related to an event, as
7 determined by the Secretary of Transportation.

8 (5) To retroactively cover a cost described in
9 any of paragraphs (1) through (4) that is incurred
10 after the date of an event or within 30 days of the
11 receipt of amounts under this subsection.

12 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

13 (1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term “eligible enti-
14 ty” means a State or local emergency response
15 group, including a law enforcement agency, a fire
16 department, and an emergency response agency, lo-
17 cated in an area affected by a hazardous train event.

18 (2) EVENT.—The term “event” means a haz-
19 ardous liquid pipeline leak, accident, incident, or
20 failure.

21 **SEC. 7. HAZARDOUS LIQUID PIPELINE COMMUNITY TRUST**
22 **FUND.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the
24 Treasury of the United States a fund which shall be
25 known as the “Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Community

1 Trust Fund” and which shall be administered by the Sec-
2 retary of Transportation.

3 (b) DEPOSITS.—Penalties collected pursuant to sec-
4 tion 5 of this Act shall be deposited into the Hazardous
5 Liquid Pipeline Community Trust Fund established in
6 subsection (a).

7 (c) DISBURSEMENT.—The Secretary shall make dis-
8 bursements from the Trust Fund to carry out sections 2
9 and 6 of this Act.

10 **SEC. 8. QUARTERLY REPORT ON INDUSTRY KNOWLEDGE.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
12 date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter,
13 the Administrator of the Pipeline and Hazardous Mate-
14 rials Safety Administration shall deliver to the appropriate
15 congressional committees a report which details industry
16 knowledge or developments regarding hazardous liquid
17 pipeline safety and integrity.

18 (b) INCORPORATION.—The Administrator shall make
19 every reasonable effort to incorporate relevant knowledge
20 or developments regarding safety and integrity from each
21 quarterly report into the regulations, guidance, rec-
22 ommendations, advisories, or notices of the Administra-
23 tion.

1 **SEC. 9. OFFICE OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
3 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transpor-
4 tation shall rename the Community Liaison Services with-
5 in the Office of Pipeline Safety of the Pipeline and Haz-
6 ardous Materials Safety Administration as the Office of
7 Public Engagement (in this section referred to as the “Of-
8 fice”).

9 (b) DUTIES.—The duties of the Office are to—

10 (1) proactively engage with pipeline stake-
11 holders, including the public, pipeline operators,
12 public safety organizations, and State, local, and
13 Tribal government officials, to raise awareness of
14 pipeline safety practices;

15 (2) promote the adoption and increased use of
16 safety programs and activities;

17 (3) inform the public of pipeline safety regula-
18 tions and best practices; and

19 (4) assist the public with inquiries regarding
20 pipeline safety.

21 (c) PUBLIC ACCESSIBILITY.—The Office shall ensure
22 that activities carried out by the Office and information
23 products developed by the Office are accessible to the pub-
24 lic.

25 (d) COMMUNITY LIAISONS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall incorporate
2 positions known as “community liaisons” under the
3 Community Liaison Services.

4 (2) MEETING INCLUSION.—For the purposes of
5 formulating a proposed safety order case, the Ad-
6 ministrator shall make every reasonable effort to in-
7 clude a community liaison in each meeting or sepa-
8 rately provide the community liaison with a detailed
9 update of each proposed safety order case meeting.

10 (e) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
11 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
12 to Congress a report on the implementation of this section.