

SENATE BILL 603

E4, C5

3lr1371
CF 3lr2560

By: **Senator Zirkin**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Public Safety – Gas Pipelines – Safety Reporting Requirements**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a gas transmission company to submit a certain report
4 on the state of its gas pipelines to the Public Service Commission and to certain
5 owners of real property; requiring a report under this Act to include certain
6 information; requiring the Commission to make certain reports available to the
7 public, including by publication on the Commission Web site; requiring a gas
8 transmission company to identify and provide a certain notice to certain owners
9 of real property; requiring a gas transmission company to provide to the
10 Commission a current list of certain property owners; authorizing the
11 Commission to adopt regulations implementing this Act; defining certain terms;
12 and generally relating to gas pipeline safety.

13 BY adding to

14 Article – Public Utilities
15 Section 15–101 and 15–102 to be under the new title “Title 15. Gas Pipeline
16 Safety”
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

19 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
20 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

21 **Article – Public Utilities**

22 **TITLE 15. GAS PIPELINE SAFETY.**

23 **15–101.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (A) IN THIS TITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
2 INDICATED.

3 (B) “COMMISSION” MEANS THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

4 (C) “GAS” MEANS NATURAL GAS, FLAMMABLE GAS, OR TOXIC OR
5 CORROSIVE GAS.

6 (D) “GAS PIPELINE” MEANS AN INTRASTATE TRANSMISSION LINE, OR
7 ANY PORTION OF AN INTERSTATE TRANSMISSION LINE LOCATED WITHIN THE
8 STATE, THAT:

9 (1) TRANSPORTS GAS FROM A GATHERING LINE OR STORAGE
10 FACILITY TO A DISTRIBUTION CENTER, STORAGE FACILITY, OR LARGE VOLUME
11 CUSTOMER THAT IS NOT DOWNSTREAM FROM A DISTRIBUTION CENTER;

12 (2) OPERATES AT A HOOP STRESS OF 20% OR MORE OF THE
13 SPECIFIED MINIMUM YIELD STRENGTH OF THE PIPELINE; OR

14 (3) TRANSPORTS GAS WITHIN A STORAGE FIELD.

15 (E) (1) “GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY” MEANS A PERSON THAT
16 OWNS OR OPERATES A GAS PIPELINE REGULATED UNDER THIS TITLE.

17 (2) “GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY” DOES NOT INCLUDE A
18 PERSON THAT IS PRIMARILY IN THE BUSINESS OF LOCAL GAS DISTRIBUTION.

19 15-102.

20 (A) EACH YEAR, A GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY SHALL SUBMIT AN
21 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE STATE OF ITS GAS PIPELINES TO THE COMMISSION
22 AND TO EACH OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY:

23 (1) ON WHICH THE GAS PIPELINE IS LOCATED; OR

24 (2) ADJACENT TO OR CONTIGUOUS TO REAL PROPERTY ON WHICH
25 THE GAS PIPELINE IS LOCATED.

26 (B) THE ANNUAL REPORT SHALL INCLUDE:

27 (1) A SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE TRANSMISSION SYSTEM
28 THAT INCLUDES THE GAS PIPELINE;

1 **(2) STATE AND LOCAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE LIAISON**
2 **INFORMATION;**

3 **(3) A DESCRIPTION OF THE LEAK DETECTION SYSTEM IN USE FOR**
4 **THE GAS PIPELINE;**

5 **(4) A DESCRIPTION OF PERIODIC TESTING METHODS USED ON**
6 **THE GAS PIPELINE AND A SUMMARY OF RESULTS OF THE TESTING; AND**

7 **(5) ANY OTHER INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSION REQUIRES.**

8 **(C) THE COMMISSION SHALL MAKE ANNUAL REPORTS AVAILABLE TO**
9 **THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING BY PUBLICATION ON THE COMMISSION'S WEB SITE.**

10 **(D) AT LEAST ONCE EVERY 5 YEARS, A GAS TRANSMISSION COMPANY**
11 **SHALL:**

12 **(1) IDENTIFY EACH OWNER OF REAL PROPERTY ON WHICH A GAS**
13 **PIPELINE IS LOCATED;**

14 **(2) NOTIFY EACH PROPERTY OWNER OF THE PRESENCE OF THE**
15 **GAS PIPELINE ON THE OWNER'S PROPERTY;**

16 **(3) VERIFY THAT EACH PROPERTY OWNER HAS RECEIVED THE**
17 **NOTICE; AND**

18 **(4) PROVIDE TO THE COMMISSION A CURRENT LIST OF ALL**
19 **PROPERTY OWNERS.**

20 **(E) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS IMPLEMENTING**
21 **THIS SECTION.**

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
23 October 1, 2013.