

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2979

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a confidential, voluntary information-sharing system to encourage the sharing of pipeline safety data and information in a nonpunitive context in order to improve the safety of pipeline facilities, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 7, 2025

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a confidential, voluntary information-sharing system to encourage the sharing of pipeline safety data and information in a nonpunitive context in order to improve the safety of pipeline facilities, 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 “PHMSA Voluntary
5 Information Sharing Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PIPELINE SAFETY VOLUNTARY INFORMATION-**
 2 **SHARING SYSTEM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 601 of title 49, United
 4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 5 lowing:

6 **“§ 60144. Voluntary information-sharing system**

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term ‘Adminis-
 9 trator’ means the Administrator of the Pipeline and
 10 Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

11 “(2) GOVERNING BOARD.—The term ‘Gov-
 12 erning Board’ means the governing board estab-
 13 lished under subsection (d)(1).

14 “(3) ISSUE ANALYSIS TEAM.—The term ‘Issue
 15 Analysis Team’ means an Issue Analysis Team es-
 16 tablished under subsection (g)(1).

17 “(4) PROGRAM MANAGER.—The term ‘Program
 18 Manager’ means the Program Manager described in
 19 subsection (e).

20 “(5) THIRD-PARTY DATA MANAGER.—The term
 21 ‘Third-Party Data Manager’ means the Third-Party
 22 Data Manager appointed under subsection (f)(1).

23 “(6) VIS.—The term ‘VIS’ means the vol-
 24 untary information-sharing system established under
 25 subsection (b)(1).

26 “(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
2 the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary
3 shall establish a confidential and nonpunitive vol-
4 untary information-sharing system to encourage the
5 sharing of pipeline safety data and information in
6 order to improve the safety of gas transmission pipe-
7 lines, gas distribution pipelines, liquefied natural gas
8 facilities, underground natural gas storage facilities,
9 and hazardous liquid pipelines.

10 “(2) REQUIREMENT.—The VIS shall be imple-
11 mented and managed in accordance with the report
12 entitled ‘Pipeline Safety Voluntary Information-
13 Sharing System Recommendation Report’ prepared
14 under section 10 of the PIPES Act of 2016 (49
15 U.S.C. 60108 note; Public Law 114–183) by the
16 Voluntary Information Sharing System Working
17 Group convened under that section.

18 “(3) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the VIS shall
19 be to serve as a comprehensive and integrated sys-
20 tem—

21 “(A) to gather, evaluate, and quantify crit-
22 ical pipeline safety data and information; and

23 “(B) to share recommended remediation
24 measures and lessons learned across the pipe-

1 line industry in an efficient and confidential
2 manner.

3 “(c) GOVERNANCE.—The VIS shall be governed, in
4 accordance with this section, by the Governing Board,
5 with support from—

6 “(1) the Program Manager;

7 “(2) the Third-Party Data Manager; and

8 “(3) 1 or more Issue Analysis Teams.

9 “(d) GOVERNING BOARD.—

10 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
11 after the date of enactment of this section, the Ad-
12 ministrator, after consulting with public and private
13 pipeline safety stakeholders, shall establish a gov-
14 erning board for the VIS.

15 “(2) COMPOSITION.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governing Board
17 shall be composed of 15 members who shall rep-
18 resent a balanced cross-section of pipeline safe-
19 ty stakeholders, in accordance with subpara-
20 graphs (B) and (C).

21 “(B) REPRESENTATION.—The Governing
22 Board shall be composed of the following mem-
23 bers:

24 “(i) 5 individuals selected from rel-
25 evant pipeline safety departments, agen-

1 cies, or instrumentalities of the Federal
 2 Government or State or territorial govern-
 3 ments, 1 of whom shall be the Adminis-
 4 trator (or a designee of the Administrator).

5 “(ii) 5 individuals selected from the
 6 gas or hazardous liquid industries, such as
 7 individuals representing or otherwise asso-
 8 ciated with—

9 “(I) operators;

10 “(II) trade associations;

11 “(III) inspection technology,
 12 coating, or cathodic protection ven-
 13 dors;

14 “(IV) standards development or-
 15 ganizations;

16 “(V) research and development
 17 consortia; or

18 “(VI) pipeline inspection organi-
 19 zations.

20 “(iii) 5 individuals selected from gen-
 21 eral public safety advocacy organizations
 22 with relevant pipeline safety expertise, in-
 23 cluding—

24 “(I) pipeline safety and environ-
 25 mental public interest groups;

1 “(II) public institutions of higher
 2 education with pipeline safety exper-
 3 tise; and

4 “(III) nonprofit employee labor
 5 organizations.

6 “(C) REQUIREMENTS.—

7 “(i) PIPELINE INDUSTRY.—At least 1
 8 member of the Governing Board appointed
 9 under subparagraph (B)(ii) shall be a rep-
 10 resentative of the pipeline industry.

11 “(ii) PIPELINE SAFETY PUBLIC IN-
 12 TEREST GROUPS.—At least 1 member of
 13 the Governing Board appointed under sub-
 14 paragraph (B)(iii) shall be a representative
 15 of a pipeline safety public interest group.

16 “(3) TERMS.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in
 18 subparagraph (B), each member of the Gov-
 19 erning Board shall be appointed for a term of
 20 3 years.

21 “(B) INITIAL MEMBERS.—In appointing
 22 the initial members of the Governing Board, the
 23 Administrator shall appoint members to terms
 24 of 1, 2, or 3 years to ensure that each year
 25 thereafter—

1 “(i) the terms of 5 members will ex-
2 pire; and

3 “(ii) the term of not less than 1 and
4 not more than 2 members described in
5 each of clauses (i) through (iii) of para-
6 graph (2)(B) will expire.

7 “(C) REAPPOINTMENT.—A member or
8 former member of the Governing Board ap-
9 pointed under clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph
10 (2)(B) may be reappointed, but may only serve
11 for a total of 3 terms.

12 “(4) CO-CHAIRS.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Governing Board
14 shall be co-chaired by—

15 “(i) the Administrator (or a designee
16 of the Administrator);

17 “(ii) a representative of the pipeline
18 industry appointed under paragraph
19 (2)(B)(ii), who shall be appointed co-chair
20 by the Administrator, with the advice and
21 consent of the Governing Board; and

22 “(iii) a representative of a pipeline
23 safety public interest group, who shall be
24 appointed co-chair by the Administrator,

1 with the advice and consent of the Gov-
 2 erning Board.

3 “(B) RESPONSIBILITIES OF CO-CHAIRS.—
 4 The co-chairs shall be jointly responsible for or-
 5 ganizing and conducting meetings of the Gov-
 6 erning Board.

7 “(5) AUTHORITY.—The Governing Board shall
 8 have authority—

9 “(A) to govern and provide strategic over-
 10 sight of the VIS;

11 “(B) to develop governance documents, in-
 12 cluding a charter for the Governing Board that
 13 shall—

14 “(i) be made available to the public;
 15 and

16 “(ii) describe—

17 “(I) the scope of the authority of
 18 the Governing Board; and

19 “(II) the objectives of the Gov-
 20 erning Board;

21 “(C) to select and appoint the Third-Party
 22 Data Manager in accordance with subsection
 23 (f);

24 “(D) to approve the criteria and proce-
 25 dures governing how the Third-Party Data

1 Manager will receive and accept pipeline safety
2 data and information;

3 “(E) to establish, and appoint members of,
4 Issue Analysis Teams in accordance with sub-
5 section (g);

6 “(F) to collaborate with Issue Analysis
7 Teams to identify issues and topics to be ana-
8 lyzed by the Issue Analysis Teams;

9 “(G) to collaborate with Issue Analysis
10 Teams to specify the type of pipeline safety
11 data and information necessary for the Issue
12 Analysis Teams to analyze the issues and topics
13 identified under subparagraph (F);

14 “(H) to determine the information to be
15 disseminated by the VIS;

16 “(I) to determine the reports to be dis-
17 seminated by the VIS;

18 “(J) to issue, not less frequently than an-
19 nually, publicly available reports on—

20 “(i) VIS processes;

21 “(ii) the membership of the Governing
22 Board;

23 “(iii) issues and topics being inves-
24 tigated and analyzed by Issue Analysis
25 Teams or the Governing Board;

1 “(iv) pipeline safety data and informa-
 2 tion that the VIS has requested for sub-
 3 mission to the VIS; and

4 “(v) safety trends identified by the
 5 Administrator, Issue Analysis Teams, or
 6 the Governing Board; and

7 “(K) to perform such other functions that
 8 the Governing Board determines are—

9 “(i) necessary or appropriate; and

10 “(ii) consistent with the purpose of
 11 the VIS described in subsection (b)(3).

12 “(6) DECISIONMAKING.—

13 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Decisions and approv-
 14 als of the Governing Board shall be made by a
 15 super-majority of the members, as described in
 16 subparagraph (B).

17 “(B) SUPERMAJORITY DESCRIBED.—A
 18 supermajority referred to in subparagraph (A)
 19 shall consist of not fewer than—

20 “(i) $\frac{2}{3}$ of the total members of the
 21 Governing Board; and

22 “(ii) 1 additional member of the Gov-
 23 erning Board.

24 “(e) PROGRAM MANAGER.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator (or a
2 designee of the Administrator) shall serve as the
3 Program Manager for the VIS.

4 “(2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Program Man-
5 ager shall provide the day-to-day program manage-
6 ment and administrative support for the VIS, in-
7 cluding oversight of the Third-Party Data Manager.

8 “(f) THIRD-PARTY DATA MANAGER.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Governing Board shall
10 appoint a Third-Party Data Manager to provide
11 data management and data oversight services for the
12 VIS.

13 “(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—The Third-Party Data
14 Manager shall have expertise in data protection, ag-
15 gregation, and analytics.

16 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In carrying out the
17 services described in paragraph (1), the Third-Party
18 Data Manager shall—

19 “(A) receive and secure pipeline safety
20 data and information submitted to the VIS;

21 “(B) accept pipeline safety data and infor-
22 mation submitted to the VIS that meets the cri-
23 teria and procedures approved by the Governing
24 Board under subsection (d)(5)(D);

1 “(C) de-identify, store, and manage pipe-
2 line safety data and information that is accept-
3 ed by the VIS;

4 “(D) collaborate with Issue Analysis
5 Teams to analyze and aggregate pipeline safety
6 data and information that is accepted by the
7 VIS;

8 “(E) prepare reports as requested by the
9 Governing Board regarding the type of pipeline
10 safety data and information that is managed by
11 the VIS; and

12 “(F) make recommendations to the Gov-
13 erning Board regarding the management of
14 pipeline safety data and information by the
15 VIS, as appropriate.

16 “(g) ISSUE ANALYSIS TEAMS.—

17 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Governing Board shall
18 establish, and appoint the members of, 1 or more
19 Issue Analysis Teams as the Governing Board deter-
20 mines to be appropriate and relevant to the pipeline
21 safety work of the VIS.

22 “(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—An Issue Analysis
23 Team established under paragraph (1) shall—

1 “(A) subject to subparagraph (B), consist
 2 of pipeline safety technical and subject matter
 3 experts; and

4 “(B) may include, as appropriate, rep-
 5 resentatives from public safety advocacy organi-
 6 zations described in subsection (d)(2)(B)(iii).

7 “(3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—An Issue Analysis
 8 Team shall—

9 “(A) work with the Third-Party Data
 10 Manager to aggregate and analyze pipeline
 11 safety data and information submitted to the
 12 VIS relating to the issues and topics analyzed
 13 by the Issue Analysis Team; and

14 “(B) submit internal reports and rec-
 15 ommendations to the Governing Board on those
 16 issues and topics.

17 “(h) APPLICATION OF FACCA.—Chapter 10 of title 5
 18 (commonly referred to as the ‘Federal Advisory Committee
 19 Act’) shall not apply to—

20 “(1) the VIS;

21 “(2) the Governing Board; or

22 “(3) any Issue Analysis Team.

23 “(i) PARTICIPATION IN THE VIS.—

24 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The submission of data
 25 and information to the VIS by any person shall be

1 voluntary, with no person compelled to participate
2 in, or to submit data or information to any person
3 for inclusion in, the VIS.

4 “(2) REQUIREMENT.—The VIS shall not accept
5 data or information relating to an operator if the op-
6 erator has not authorized the submission of that
7 data or information for inclusion in the VIS.

8 “(3) ENCOURAGING INFORMATION SHARING.—
9 The Governing Board shall encourage the voluntary
10 sharing of pipeline safety data and information
11 among—

12 “(A) operators of gas transmission, gas
13 distribution, and hazardous liquid pipelines;

14 “(B) employees of those operators;

15 “(C) labor unions representing those em-
16 ployees;

17 “(D) contractors of the operators described
18 in subparagraph (A);

19 “(E) in-line inspection service providers;

20 “(F) non-destructive evaluation experts;

21 “(G) the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials
22 Safety Administration; and

23 “(H) representatives of—

24 “(i) State pipeline safety agencies;

25 “(ii) relevant Tribal agencies;

1 “(iii) pipeline safety public interest
2 groups;

3 “(iv) manufacturers of gas trans-
4 mission, gas distribution, and hazardous
5 liquid pipeline infrastructure and equip-
6 ment; and

7 “(v) relevant research and academic
8 institutions.

9 “(4) LIMITATION ON INCLUSION OF DATA AND
10 INFORMATION IN THE VIS.—Pipeline safety data and
11 information accepted by the Third-Party Data Man-
12 ager for inclusion in the VIS under subsection
13 (f)(3)(B) shall be related to the issues and topics
14 identified by the Governing Board for analysis by an
15 Issue Analysis Team under subsection (d)(5)(F).

16 “(5) TYPES OF DATA AND INFORMATION IN-
17 CLUDED IN THE VIS.—Pipeline safety data and in-
18 formation accepted by the Third-Party Data Man-
19 ager for inclusion in the VIS under subsection
20 (f)(3)(B) may include—

21 “(A) pipeline integrity risk analysis infor-
22 mation;

23 “(B) lessons learned from accidents and
24 near misses;

25 “(C) process improvements;

1 “(D) technology deployment practices;

2 “(E) information obtained through VIS
3 pipeline safety surveys of pipeline operator em-
4 ployees, subject to the condition that such sur-
5 veys are voluntarily agreed to by the pipeline
6 operator;

7 “(F) pipeline safety data and information
8 which may lead to the identification of pipeline
9 safety risks, as specified by the Governing
10 Board; and

11 “(G) any other relevant data or informa-
12 tion, as determined by the Governing Board.

13 “(j) CONFIDENTIALITY.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—To facilitate the sharing of
15 otherwise nonpublic pipeline safety data and infor-
16 mation with the VIS, the data and information ac-
17 cepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or produced by
18 the VIS—

19 “(A) shall be kept confidential by the VIS;
20 and

21 “(B) except as otherwise provided in this
22 section, is not subject to disclosure by the VIS
23 under any other law.

24 “(2) PROHIBITION.—Except as provided in
25 paragraph (3), no person, including the Program

1 Manager, the Third-Party Data Manager, any mem-
 2 ber of the Governing Board, and any member of an
 3 Issue Analysis Team, and no Federal, State, local,
 4 or Tribal agency having or obtaining access to non-
 5 public information accepted, analyzed, stored, man-
 6 aged, or produced by the VIS may release or com-
 7 municate that nonpublic information from the VIS,
 8 either in an identified or de-identified form, to any
 9 person who does not have the authority to view VIS
 10 data.

11 “(3) EXCEPTION.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding
 13 paragraphs (1) and (2) and subsections (k) and
 14 (l), on approval by the Governing Board under
 15 subparagraph (B), the Governing Board or the
 16 Administrator may disclose de-identified non-
 17 public information obtained by the VIS.

18 “(B) APPROVAL.—Approval to disclose de-
 19 identified nonpublic information under subpara-
 20 graph (A)—

21 “(i) shall be based on an analysis of
 22 the de-identified nonpublic information;
 23 and

24 “(ii) may, in the sole discretion of the
 25 Governing Board, consist of any safety

1 findings or recommendations that the Gov-
2 erning Board determines to publish or au-
3 thorizes the Administrator to publish to
4 improve pipeline safety.

5 “(C) PUBLIC REPORTS.—In issuing public
6 reports under subsection (d)(5)(J), the Gov-
7 erning Board shall approve the disclosure of de-
8 identified nonpublic information obtained by the
9 VIS that the Governing Board determines is
10 necessary to adequately describe and illustrate
11 the issues and topics being investigated and
12 analyzed by Issue Analysis Teams or the Gov-
13 erning Board.

14 “(4) SAVINGS PROVISION.—This subsection
15 does not apply to public information that may be
16 submitted to the VIS.

17 “(k) APPLICABILITY OF FOIA.—

18 “(1) EXEMPTION.—Any nonpublic information
19 that is accepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or pro-
20 duced by the VIS and subsequently obtained by the
21 Secretary or the Administrator from the VIS is ex-
22 empt from the requirements of section 552 of title
23 5.

1 “(2) APPLICABILITY.—For purposes of para-
 2 graph (1), this section shall be considered to be a
 3 statute described in section 552(b)(3)(B) of title 5.

4 “(1) EXCLUSION OF VIS INFORMATION IN LITIGA-
 5 TION AND OTHER PROCEEDINGS.—

6 “(1) EXCLUDED EVIDENCE.—Except as pro-
 7 vided in paragraph (3), any nonpublic information
 8 that is accepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or pro-
 9 duced by the VIS may not be obtained from the
 10 VIS—

11 “(A) for use as evidence for any purpose in
 12 any Federal, State, local, Tribal, or private liti-
 13 gation, including any action or proceeding; or

14 “(B) to initiate any enforcement action or
 15 civil litigation against a pipeline operator or the
 16 employees or contractors of a pipeline operator
 17 relating to a probable violation under this chap-
 18 ter (including any regulation promulgated or
 19 order issued under this chapter).

20 “(2) EXCLUSION FROM DISCOVERY.—Except as
 21 provided in paragraph (3), any nonpublic informa-
 22 tion that is accepted, stored, managed, analyzed, or
 23 produced by the VIS shall not be subject to dis-
 24 covery from the VIS in any Federal, State, local,
 25 Tribal, or private litigation or other proceeding.

1 “(3) LIMITATIONS ON EXCLUSIONS.—The ex-
 2 clusions described in paragraphs (1) and (2) shall
 3 not apply to data or information that—

4 “(A) is evidence of a criminal violation;

5 “(B) is not related to the purpose of the
 6 VIS described in subsection (b)(3);

7 “(C) is otherwise required to be reported
 8 to the Secretary under part 190, 191 (including
 9 information about an incident or accident), 192,
 10 194, 195, or 199 of title 49, Code of Federal
 11 Regulations (or successor regulations);

12 “(D) is required to be reported to a State
 13 authority under State pipeline safety laws; or

14 “(E) is developed or obtained from a
 15 source other than the VIS, including through
 16 discovery from a person or an entity other than
 17 the VIS in an enforcement action or private liti-
 18 gation.

19 “(m) EFFECT ON DISCOVERY.—Except as provided
 20 in subsection (l)(2), nothing in this section or any rule
 21 or regulation promulgated under this section—

22 “(1) creates a defense to a discovery request; or

23 “(2) otherwise limits or affects the discovery of
 24 pipeline safety data and information arising from a

1 cause of action authorized under any other Federal,
2 State, or local law.

3 “(n) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Nothing in this section
4 affects any Federal, State, or local pipeline safety law.

5 “(o) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Each fiscal year, the Sec-
6 retary shall submit to Congress, by the end of that fiscal
7 year, a report on the status of the VIS.

8 “(p) FUNDING.—

9 “(1) SUSTAINABLE FUNDING.—The Secretary
10 shall—

11 “(A) explore sustainable funding sources
12 for the VIS, including public-private partner-
13 ships; and

14 “(B) to the maximum extent practicable,
15 sustainably fund the VIS through the use of
16 those sustainable funding sources.

17 “(2) LIMITED ADDITIONAL FUNDING.—In addi-
18 tion to the fees collected under section 60301, the
19 Secretary may collect an additional \$5,000,000
20 under that section for each of fiscal years 2024
21 through 2027 to establish, implement, and manage
22 the VIS.”.

23 “(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 60101(a) of title 49,
24 United States Code, is amended—

1 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (17) through
 2 (26) as paragraphs (18), (19), (20), (25), (26), (27),
 3 (22), (23), (24), and (28), respectively, and moving
 4 the paragraphs so as to appear in numerical order;

5 (2) by inserting after paragraph (16) the fol-
 6 lowing:

7 “(17) NONPUBLIC INFORMATION.—The term
 8 ‘nonpublic information’ means any pipeline safety
 9 data or information, regardless of form or format,
 10 that—

11 “(A) a company does not disclose, dissemi-
 12 nate, or make available to the public; or

13 “(B) is not otherwise in the public do-
 14 main.”; and

15 (3) by inserting after paragraph (20) (as so re-
 16 designated) the following:

17 “(21) PUBLIC INFORMATION.—The term ‘public
 18 information’ means any data or information, regard-
 19 less of form or format, that—

20 “(A) a company discloses, disseminates, or
 21 makes available to the public; or

22 “(B) is otherwise in the public domain.”.

23 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
 24 ter 601 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
 25 adding at the end the following:

“60144. Voluntary information-sharing system.”.

1 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

2 (1) Section 70012(c) of title 46, United States
3 Code, is amended by striking “section
4 60101(a)(18)” and inserting “section 60101(a)”.

5 (2) Section 60102(q)(1) of title 49, United
6 States Code, is amended, in the matter preceding
7 subparagraph (A), by striking “subsection (a)(21)”
8 and inserting “subsection (a)(26)”.

9 (e) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Section 60101(a) of
10 title 49, United States Code (as amended by subsection
11 (b)), is amended—

12 (1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by
13 striking “chapter—” and inserting “chapter:”;

14 (2) in each of paragraphs (1) through (16),
15 (18), (19), (20), (22) (23), (25), and (27), by strik-
16 ing the semicolon at the end of the paragraph and
17 inserting a period;

18 (3) in paragraph (1)—

19 (A) by striking the paragraph designation
20 and all that follows through “(A) means” in
21 subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

22 “(1) EXISTING LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FA-
23 CILITY.—

24 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘existing liq-
25 uefied natural gas facility’ means”;

1 (B) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “;
2 but” and inserting a period; and

3 (C) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (i) by striking “(B) does not” and in-
5 serting the following:

6 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘existing
7 liquefied natural gas facility’ does not”; and

8 (ii) by inserting “described in sub-
9 paragraph (A)” after “approval”;

10 (4) in paragraph (14)—

11 (A) by striking the paragraph designation
12 and all that follows through “(A) means” in
13 subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

14 “(14) LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS PIPELINE FA-
15 CILITY.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘liquefied
17 natural gas pipeline facility’ means”;

18 (B) in subparagraph (A), by striking “;
19 but” and inserting a period; and

20 (C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “(B)
21 does not” and inserting the following:

22 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘liquefied
23 natural gas pipeline facility’ does not”;

(5) in paragraph (24) (relating to the term “Secretary”), by striking “; and” and inserting a period;

(6) in paragraph (26)—

(A) by striking the paragraph designation and all that follows through “(A) means” in subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(26) TRANSPORTING GAS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘transporting gas’ means”;

(B) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “; but” and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

“(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘transporting gas’ does not include—

“(i) gathering gas (except through regulated gathering lines) in a rural area outside a populated area designated by the Secretary as a nonrural area; or

“(ii) the movement of gas by the owner or operator of a plant for use as a fuel, a feedstock, or for any other purpose that directly supports plant operations through—

1 “(I) in-plant piping systems that
 2 are located entirely on the grounds of
 3 the plant; or

4 “(II) transfer piping systems
 5 that extend less than 1 mile in length
 6 outside the grounds of the plant.”;

7 (7) in paragraph (27)—

8 (A) by striking the paragraph designation
 9 and all that follows through “(A) means” in
 10 subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

11 “(27) TRANSPORTING HAZARDOUS LIQUID.—

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘trans-
 13 porting hazardous liquid’ means”;

14 (B) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “;
 15 but” and inserting a period; and

16 (C) in subparagraph (B), by striking “(B)
 17 does not” and inserting the following:

18 “(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term ‘trans-
 19 porting hazardous liquid’ does not”; and

20 (8) in each of paragraphs (2) through (13),
 21 (15), (16), (18), (19), (20), (22) through (25), and
 22 (28)—

23 (A) by inserting “The term” after the
 24 paragraph designation; and

- 1 (B) by inserting a paragraph heading, the
- 2 text of which comprises the term defined in the
- 3 paragraph.

