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Energy/Pipelines: Discussion Draft of Pipeline Safety Act of 2016 Approved by U.S. House of Representatives Energy and Power Subcommittee

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The Energy and Power Subcommittee of the United States House of Representatives Energy and Commerce Committee ("Committee") approved on March 16th a Discussion Draft of the Pipeline Safety Act of 2016 ("Draft").

A Committee news release notes that the Draft will now be considered by the full Energy and Commerce Committee.

The Draft would amend Title 49 of the United States Code in regards to the topic of safety and pipeline transportation.

A March 14th memorandum from Committee Majority Staff notes that the Draft contains:

... spending authorizations for the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) and targeted mandates to increase transparency and accountability, complete overdue regulations, and improve safety.

The sections of the Draft include:

- Regulatory Updates
- Statutory Preference
- Integrity Management Review
- Technical Safety Standards Committees
- Inspection Report Information
- Improving Damage Prevention Technology
- Direct Hire Authority for Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration
- Information-Sharing System
- Nationwide Integrated Pipeline Safety Regulatory Database
- Underground Gas Storage Facilities
- Requirements for Certain Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Facilities
- Response Plans
- High Consequence Areas
- Emergency Operation Controls
- Pipeline Safety Information Grants to Communities
- Authorization of Appropriations

[Click here to download a copy of the Majority Staff memorandum and the Committee news release.](#)