

SESSION OF 2024

SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2590

As Recommended by House Committee on
Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications

Brief*

HB 2590 would increase the maximum penalties that can be assessed for violation of Kansas pipeline safety regulations. The maximum per violation, per day penalty would be increased from \$25,000 to \$200,000. Additionally, the maximum total civil penalty that could be assessed would be capped at \$2.0 million, up from \$1.0 million, for a given series of violations.

Background

The bill was introduced by the House Committee on Energy, Utilities and Telecommunications at the request of a representative of the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC).

***House Committee on Energy, Utilities and
Telecommunications***

In the House Committee hearing on February 8, 2024, a representative of the KCC provided **proponent** testimony. The proponent stated the change in penalty maximums is necessary to conform with 49 USC § 60122 (Federal Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act) and would allow the State to continue using its own pipeline safety program instead of the program administered by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration.

No other testimony was provided.

*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.klrd.org>

Fiscal Information

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the KCC indicates enactment of the bill would have no fiscal impact on the agency.

Any fiscal effect associated with enactment of the bill is not reflected in The *FY 2025 Governors Budget Report*.

Pipeline; safety; penalty; Kansas Corporation Commission