
DIGEST

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HB 400 Reengrossed

2015 Regular Session

Schexnayder

Abstract: Authorizes the commissioner of conservation to regulate liquified natural gas facilities in the state.

Proposed law authorizes the commissioner of conservation to promulgate rules for the regulation of the location, construction, operation, and maintenance of a liquefied natural gas facility within the state.

Present law provides that the commissioner of conservation has the authority to regulate all public and private natural gas distribution systems for safety purposes except where prohibited by federal law. Proposed law authorizes the commissioner to regulate people engaged in the transportation of gas or those who own or operate intrastate pipelines and requires state regulations to be consistent with federal rules and regulations.

Present law authorizes the commissioner of conservation to certify to the U.S. secretary of transportation that the state has regulatory jurisdiction over the safety standards of intrastate pipelines. Proposed law authorizes the commissioner to certify to the U.S. Dept. of Transportation that the state has jurisdiction over the safety standards and practices of intrastate pipelines and liquified natural gas facilities and the transportation of gas and liquified natural gas associated with those facilities.

Proposed law specifically provides that, except as provided in federal law, the commissioner does not have authority to regulate safety standards for interstate gas pipelines or the transportation of gas through those pipelines.

(Amends R.S. 30:551(B) and 703; Adds R.S. 30:4(P) and 551(C) and (D))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Natural Resources and Environment to the original bill:

1. Update regulatory citations references in the Code of Federal Regulations.
2. Authorize the commissioner to regulate the people who transport gas or those who own or operate intrastate pipelines and require state regulations to be consistent with federal rules and regulations.

3. Authorize the commissioner to certify to the U.S. Dept. of Transportation that the state has jurisdiction over the safety standards and practices of intrastate pipelines and liquified natural gas facilities and the transportation of gas and liquified natural gas associated with those facilities.
4. Provide that the commissioner does not have authority to regulate safety standards for interstate gas pipelines or the transportation of gas, except as provided in federal law.