

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

H

1

HOUSE BILL 639

Short Title: Gas Pipeline Safety Amendment.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Kerr.

Referred to: Infrastructure.

March 16, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO CONFORM STATE GAS PIPELINE STANDARDS TO THE NEWLY
2 ENACTED AMENDMENTS TO THE FEDERAL NATURAL GAS PIPELINE
3 SAFETY ACT OF 1968.
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. G.S. 62-50(b) reads as rewritten:

7 "(b) The Commission is hereby authorized to enter into agreements with the
8 United States Department of Transportation and other federal agencies and with other
9 states or public utilities commissions of other states for the regulation of natural gas
10 pipelines located within the State of North Carolina and upon the execution of such
11 cooperative agreements, the Commission is authorized to utilize Commission personnel
12 for inspection, investigation, and regulation of safety standards for interstate and
13 intrastate natural gas pipelines in North Carolina, and to share in the cost of such
14 regulation with other agencies having duties with respect to the regulation of said
15 natural gas pipelines, and to receive funds from the United States Department of
16 Transportation for such regulation. The Commission may use Commission personnel to
17 inspect and investigate all gas incidents, facilities, and records kept pursuant to the
18 provisions of 49 Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 191, 192, and 193, and to cooperate
19 with other state and federal agencies in determining the probable cause or causes of gas
20 incidents. Any information obtained during an investigation of a gas incident shall be
21 reduced to writing and a report containing that information shall be filed with the Chief
22 Clerk of the Commission and the report shall be subject to public inspection but the
23 report shall not be admissible in evidence in any civil or criminal proceeding arising
24 from the incident."

1 Sec. 2. G.S. 62-50(d) reads as rewritten:

2 "(d) Any person who violates any provision of this section, or any regulation of
3 the Utilities Commission issued thereunder, shall be subject to a civil penalty not to
4 exceed ~~one thousand dollars (\$1,000)~~ ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for each violation for
5 each day that the violation persists, the maximum civil penalty not to exceed ~~two~~
6 ~~hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000)~~ five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) for any
7 continuing violation."

8 Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification.