

December 20, 2019

The Honorable Sam Graves
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Crawford
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials
United State House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Members Graves and Crawford:

While the U.S. pipeline network is already the safest in the world, pipeline operators recognize there is more we can and should do to improve pipeline safety beginning with updating federal pipeline safety requirements. The bill you introduced, the *Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2019, H.R. 5175*, contains important provisions that will improve pipeline safety, such as promoting voluntary information sharing, piloting new safety technologies, and modernizing the class location change program.

Earlier this year, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (Committee) hosted a hearing to review proposals to harness new technologies and best practices to improve safety, learn from past pipeline incidents and improve the ability of the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to administer federal pipeline safety requirements. Unfortunately, many of the proposals made to improve pipeline safety were left out of H.R. 5120, the bill reported out by the Committee on November 19th without bipartisan support.

We appreciate your leadership advancing these proposals in H.R. 5175, including but not limited to the provisions outlined above – promoting voluntary information sharing, piloting new safety technologies, and modernizing the class location program. We look forward to assisting the committee in bipartisan legislation to improve pipeline safety.

Sincerely,

American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers
American Gas Association
American Petroleum Institute
American Public Gas Association
Association of Oil Pipe Lines
GPA Midstream Association
Interstate Natural Gas Association of America