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Senate Bill 366 (as introduced 5-30-23)

Sponsor: Senator Sean McCann Committee: Energy and Environment

Date Completed: 1-23-24

CONTENT

The bill would amend Public Act 165 of 1969, which authorizes the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) to establish and enforce gas safety standards, to increase the fines for violations of gas safety standards prescribed by the Act.

The Act requires the MPSC to promulgate rules and prescribe safety standards for pipeline facilities and the transportation of gas. The Act also requires any person who engages in the transportation of gas or owns or operates a pipeline facility to comply with the requirements of any MPSC standard and file and comply with a plan of inspection and maintenance.

Currently, a person who violates the Act or a rule promulgated by the MPSC is subject to a fine of up to \$10,000 for each day that the violation persists, for a maximum of \$500,000. Under the bill, a person who violated the Act would be subject to an administrative fine of up to \$200,000 for each day that the violation persisted, for a maximum of \$2.5 million.

The bill would require the MPSC to issue an order adjusting the administrative fines for inflation using the Consumer Price Index for the Detroit area from the Bureau of Labor Statistics at the U.S. Department of Labor. The MPSC would have to issue this order by October 1 of every year but not before September 1 in 2024.

MCL 483.161 Legislative Analyst: Nathan Leaman

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have a positive fiscal impact on State government. Revenue from penalties would increase though this would depend on the number of violations and the number of days these violations were recorded.

Fiscal Analyst: Nathan Leaman

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