

Date of Hearing: June 29, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Rhodesia Ransom, Chair

SB 804 (Archuleta) – As Amended June 8, 2026

SENATE VOTE: 34-0

SUBJECT: Hydrogen pipeline safety

SUMMARY: This bill would create the Hydrogen Pipeline Safety Act that would govern pipelines dedicated to transporting hydrogen, to be administered by the State Fire Marshal (SFM), as specified. This bill would also authorize the SFM to assess and collect an annual fee from each hydrogen pipeline operator for the purposes of carrying out the bill. This bill also establishes the California Hydrogen Pipeline Safety Fund and would impose penalties for willfully and knowingly violating provision in this bill. Specifically, **this bill:**

1. Declares that the SFM exercises exclusive safety regulatory and enforcement authority over intrastate hydrogen pipelines and, to the extent authorized by agreement between the State Fire Marshal and the United States Secretary of Transportation, may act as agent for the United States Secretary of Transportation to implement Chapter 601 (commencing with Section 60101) of Subtitle VIII of Title 49 of the United States Code and federal pipeline safety regulations as to those portions of interstate pipelines located within this state, as necessary to obtain annual federal certification.
2. Defines “continuous measurement and monitoring system” to mean a set of integrated tools and technologies designed to continuously assess the operational status of a dedicated hydrogen pipeline that is capable of detecting leaks, enables prompt automated or manual corrective actions to prevent a hydrogen release into the atmosphere, and supports pipeline safety and efficiency.
3. Defines “hydrogen pipeline” to mean a dedicated pipeline that has been constructed on or after the effective date of the hydrogen pipeline safety standards established by the Office of the State Fire Marshal pursuant to this chapter, for the purpose of transporting hydrogen gas.
 - a. “Hydrogen pipeline” includes every intrastate pipeline used solely for the transportation of hydrogen
 - b. Excludes the following from the definition of “hydrogen pipeline”:
 - i. A pipeline for the transportation of hydrogen through an onshore production, refining, or manufacturing facility, including a storage or in-plant piping system associated with that facility.
 - ii. Transportation of hydrogen by vessel, aircraft, tank truck, tank car, or other vehicle or terminal facilities used exclusively to transfer hydrogen between those modes of transportation.
4. Defines “Production facility” to mean piping or equipment used in the production, extraction, recovery, lifting, stabilization, separation, or treatment of gas or associated storage or measurement. To be a production facility under this definition, piping or

equipment shall be used in the process of producing hydrogen and transporting it by hydrogen pipeline.

5. Requires the SFM to adopt in regulation hydrogen pipeline safety standards in compliance with the federal law relating to hydrogen pipeline safety, including, but not limited to, compliance orders, penalties, and inspection and maintenance provisions, and including amendments to those laws and regulations that may be hereafter enacted and adopted. Regulations adopting the minimum standards for hydrogen pipelines are as specified.
6. Authorizes the SFM to exempt the application of regulations adopted pursuant to this section to any hydrogen pipeline, or portion thereof, when the SFM determines that the risk to public safety is slight and the probability of injury or damage remote.
7. Requires notification of exemptions to be written, and to include a discussion of those factors that the State Fire Marshal considers significant to the granting of the exemption.
8. Requires all existing hydrogen pipeline operators to file an assessment with the SFM for inspection, maintenance, improvement, or replacement, as applicable, for any hydrogen pipeline constructed before the adoption of this section, on or before July 1, 2027. Requires the assessment to also provide information documenting any prior releases and subsequent investigation and cause of the hydrogen pipeline release. Requires the assessment to cover all applicable hydrogen requirements found in Chapter 601 (commencing with Section 60101) of Subtitle VIII of Title 49 of the United States Code and Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.
9. Authorizes the SFM to require hydrogen pipelines to be compliant with Part 191 (commencing with Section 191.1) and Part 192 (commencing with Section 192.1) of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations and to meet all of the following requirements:
 - a. Designed and constructed to minimize hydrogen leakage to the lowest technically feasible level, as determined by the SFM
 - b. Designed of materials chemically compatible with hydrogen, including resistance to hydrogen-induced degradation such as corrosion or embrittlement, and shall be consistent with the requirements of Part 191 (commencing with Section 191.1) and Part 192 (commencing with Section 192.1) of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations, or any additional material specifications, as determined by the SFM.
 - c. Employ continuous measurement and monitoring systems to detect deviations from normal operational parameters.
 - d. Be constructed of new materials that have not previously been used in a hydrogen pipeline or for any other application.
 - e. If construction begins after January 1, 2026, any new hydrogen pipeline are required to be designed to accommodate the passage of instrumented internal inspection devices and to incorporate an alternative leak detection and integrity monitoring system approved by the SFM that provides equivalent or superior protection of public safety, and to have leak mitigation and emergency response plans, and any other equipment as the State Fire Marshal may require. Any repairs to existing hydrogen pipelines that can accommodate instrumented internal inspection devices are required to be done in a manner not to interfere with the passage of these devices.

10. On or before January 1, 2028, requires the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to establish hydrogen pipeline safety standards that meet or exceed the requirements in (9)
11. Requires the OSFM to ensure alignment of standards, and periodically review and update the hydrogen pipeline safety standards, incorporating technological advancements and industry best practices.
12. Requires the OSFM to adopt a percentage of hydrogen gas by volume carried in a hydrogen pipeline for the purpose of identifying hydrogen pipelines. A percentage adopted by the Office of the State Fire Marshal for this purpose is required to exceed 90 percent.
13. In accordance with federal regulations adopted by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, authorizes the OSFM to determine whether an existing pipeline may be safely retrofitted for service as a hydrogen pipeline.
14. Authorizes the OSFM to adopt regulations to allow for the use of new technology, including, but not limited to, technology related to retrofitted pipelines.
15. Requires the owner of a hydrogen pipeline to maintain operational records of hydrogen concentration levels within the hydrogen pipeline and any confirmed instances of leakages of hydrogen.
16. Requires the owner of a hydrogen pipeline, on or before March 30 of each year, to submit a report to the OSFM detailing its compliance with (15) for the previous calendar year.
17. Requires every hydrogen pipeline, including any newly constructed hydrogen pipeline, existing hydrogen pipeline, or part of a hydrogen pipeline system that has been relocated or replaced, to be pressure tested, as specified, with OSFM authorization to require any hydrogen pipeline subject to this bill to be subjected to a pressure test, or any other test or inspection, at any time, in the interest of public safety, and adopt regulations by January 1, 2028
18. Requires existing hydrogen pipeline operators to file a safety assessment (covering prior leaks, inspection/maintenance needs) with the State Fire Marshal by July 1, 2027.
19. Mandates annual pressure testing, certified by an independent third-party tester chosen from a State Fire Marshal-approved list, with advance notice to local fire departments before any test.
20. Prohibits structures, fences, or obstructions within or adjacent to hydrogen pipeline easements that would block surface or aerial access.
21. Requires operators to share pipeline maps, safety data sheets, and emergency contingency plans with local fire departments, and meet with them at least once a year.
22. Establishes a public centralized database of intrastate hydrogen pipeline locations, ages, ownership, and inspection histories.
23. Requires annual State Fire Marshal inspections of all intrastate hydrogen pipelines starting January 1, 2027.

24. Mandates immediate reporting of any rupture, explosion, or fire to the local fire department and the Office of Emergency Services, which must then notify the State Fire Marshal.
25. Allows the State Fire Marshal to shut down pipelines for safety violations or immediate danger, and requires pipelines to stay offline after a rupture until the cause is determined.
26. Establishes civil penalties up to the federal maximum for violations, and criminal penalties up to \$25,000 and/or one year in jail for willful violations of this Act.
27. Establishes the California Hydrogen Pipeline Safety Fund (with a Pipeline Operations Account and Local Training Account) funded by annual fees on hydrogen operators; penalty money goes toward hazardous liquid and hydrogen fire suppression training for local fire departments.
28. Preserves the California Public Utilities Commission's (CPUC) authority over public utilities; where this Act and CPUC rules conflict, the more protective rule applies.

EXISTING LAW:

1. Establishes the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), within the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), to foster, promote and develop ways and means of protecting life and property against fire and panic. (Health and Safety Code § 13100-13100.1)
2. Requires OSFM to adopt hazardous liquid pipeline safety regulations that comply with federal law regarding hazardous liquid pipeline safety. Establishes certain recordkeeping and reporting requirements for hazardous liquid pipeline operators. (Government Code § 51010)
3. Requires OSFM to adopt regulations by July 1, 2026, to regulate the transportation of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in a pipeline, including certain specified safety standards that, at a minimum, are as protective as the draft regulations proposed by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). (Government Code §§ 51011.5-51015.06)
4. Authorizes the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to supervise and regulate every public utility in the state and permits the CPUC to do anything that is necessary and convenient to exercise its power and jurisdiction. Existing law provides the CPUC with broad authority to regulate any utility's rules, practices, equipment, appliances, facilities, or service if the CPUC finds that those rules, practices, equipment, appliances, facilities, or services are unjust, unreasonable, unsafe, improper, inadequate, or insufficient after conducting a hearing. (Public Utilities Code §§ 701 and 761)
5. Requires each gas corporation to develop a plan for the safe and reliable operation of its CPUC-regulated gas pipeline facility. Existing law specifies components that must be included in these plans and requires the CPUC to review and accept, modify, or reject the plan for each gas corporation. Under existing law, gas corporations are required to

implement gas pipeline safety plans approved by the CPUC. (Public Utilities Code §§ 961 and 963)

6. Federal Law grants the United States Secretary of Transportation the regulatory and enforcement authority over gas and hazardous liquid pipelines, including hydrogen (H₂) pipelines. (49 United States Code § 60102)
7. Federal Law prohibits the Secretary of Transportation from prescribing or enforcing safety standards and practices for an intrastate pipeline or intrastate pipeline facility to the extent that the safety standards and practices are regulated by a state authority, except as provided. (49 United States Code § 60105)

FISCAL EFFECT: Unknown. This bill was significantly amended on June 8, 2026. It is keyed fiscal and will be referred to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, pursuant to Assembly Rule 77.2, for its review.

COMMENTS:

Author's Statement: "California leads the nation in the clean energy transition, and hydrogen is poised to play a pivotal role, especially in hard-to-decarbonize sectors like cement production, aviation fuel, and heavy-duty transportation. Yet, as hydrogen infrastructure expands, the state's regulatory framework for pipeline safety has not kept pace. Senate Bill 804, the Hydrogen Pipeline Safety Act, addresses this critical gap by directing the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to establish clear, enforceable safety standards tailored to hydrogen pipelines. Unlike natural gas, hydrogen presents distinct challenges, including high diffusivity and the potential to degrade common pipeline materials, risks that current regulations were not designed to address. Without modern oversight, California faces increased risks to public safety and the environment and could erode public confidence in hydrogen as a clean energy solution. SB 804 sends a clear message: California is committed to pairing innovation with responsibility. This legislation takes a proactive, future-focused approach to managing the unique risks of hydrogen infrastructure while enabling continued investment in our clean energy future. It's smart, timely policy that safeguards both progress and public well-being."

National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) Hydrogen Technologies Code: The National Fire Protection Association's Hydrogen Technologies Code, NFPA 2, is a critical element of the framework for deploying hydrogen technologies in the United States.¹ With the increased interest in hydrogen being used as a vehicle fuel source, the NFPA was petitioned to develop an all-encompassing document that would establish the necessary requirements for hydrogen technologies. The NFPA's technical committee was formed in 2006, and the NFPA 2 is continuously updated. The focus of the NFPA 2 standard is all aspects of hydrogen storage, use and production and draws from existing codes and standards. The standards are developed for code users and enforcers, such as the SFM. Current 2026 edition provides safeguards for the generation, installation, storage, piping, use, and handling compressed gaseous and cryogenic liquid hydrogen in stationary, portable, and vehicle-related applications. NFPA 2 therefore provides an important technical reference for authorities having jurisdiction, including state and local fire officials, when reviewing hydrogen production, storage, transfer, dispensing,

¹ NFPA 2, Hydrogen Technologies Code, <https://www.nfpa.org/codes-and-standards/all-codes-and-standards/list-of-codes-and-standards/detail?code=2>

ventilation, separation distances, emergency shutdown systems, and associated facility piping (Hydrogen Tools, 2026; NFPA, 2026). NFPA 2 primarily governs hydrogen facilities and installations rather than interstate or intrastate pipeline transportation. NFPA 2 should be understood as complementary to, rather than a substitute for, federal and state transportation-pipeline safety requirements as the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) regulates the transportation of hydrogen and hydrogen-natural gas blends under federal gas-pipeline regulations. The distinction for *who* regulates intrastate pipelines is at the state level (see section *PHMSA, OSFM, and CPUC Authority over H₂ Pipelines* in this analysis).²

Hydrogen as an Emerging Commodity: Hydrogen is an emerging pipeline commodity that may be transported in dedicated hydrogen systems or blended with natural gas in an existing pipeline system, but its physical and combustion properties differ from natural gas, as detailed in the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy’s analysis of SB 804. The differences between hydrogen and natural gas (or methane) necessitate hydrogen-specific requirements for ventilation, leak detection, monitoring, material selection, and emergency response rather than an assumption that practices developed for natural gas will be sufficient without further evaluation.³

The Department of Energy’s (DOE) Hydrogen Infrastructure subprogram seeks to accelerate innovation in R&D to enable commercialization and large-scale adoption of efficient and durable hydrogen technologies with a focus on the storage, transmission, distribution, delivery, and dispensing of hydrogen for various delivery pathways and end uses. The subprogram pursues this goal by primarily focusing on reducing the cost and improving the reliability of current hydrogen infrastructure options for today’s end uses.⁴ Because dedicated hydrogen transmission pipelines remain relatively limited compared to natural gas infrastructure, publicly available operational incident data is limited. In a study by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), researchers determined that the suitability of existing pipeline infrastructure for hydrogen transportation depends upon pipeline-specific engineering evaluations rather than assumptions that systems designed for natural gas can safely transport hydrogen without modification.⁵ As a potential pathway for alternative energy options, key operational differences between hydrogen and natural gas transmission pipelines, for example, are fundamental to ensuring safe operations and obligations to existing and budding standards.

PHMSA, OSFM, and CPUC Authority over H₂ Pipelines: Pipeline safety oversight for hydrogen infrastructure is divided among federal and state regulators based upon the commodity being transported, whether the pipeline operates in interstate or intrastate commerce, and the ownership of the facility. At the federal level, PHMSA establishes minimum safety standards under the Pipeline Safety Act for transportation of gas by pipeline, including hydrogen and hydrogen-natural gas blends. States may assume responsibility for intrastate pipeline safety programs through PHMSA certification, while interstate pipeline safety standards remain federally prescribed.

² Transportation of Natural And Other Gas By Pipeline: Minimum Federal Safety Standards, <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-I/subchapter-D/part-192>

³ Hydrogen and Fuel Cells, <https://h2tools.org/fuel-cell-codes-and-standards/nfpa-2-hydrogen-technologies-code>

⁴ Hydrogen Infrastructure, <https://www.energy.gov/cmei/fuels/hydrogen-infrastructure>

⁵ Blending Hydrogen into Natural Gas Pipeline Networks: A Review of Key Issues, <https://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy13osti/51995.pdf>

California currently allocates pipeline safety responsibilities between multiple agencies. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) oversees the safety of natural gas facilities operated by investor-owned gas utilities, while the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) administers California's certified pipeline safety program for hazardous liquid pipelines. Because hydrogen is regulated federally as a gas rather than a hazardous liquid, the regulatory framework for hydrogen pipelines differs from the framework governing petroleum pipelines under the Elder California Pipeline Safety Act.

An important regulatory distinction exists between dedicated hydrogen pipelines and hydrogen blended into existing natural gas systems. PHMSA has clarified that hydrogen-natural gas blends remain subject to the federal gas pipeline safety regulations contained in 49 C.F.R. Part 192 regardless of hydrogen concentration. Depending upon pipeline ownership and operation, hydrogen blending projects may also fall within the CPUC's existing jurisdiction over regulated gas utilities, while SB 804 would establish a separate OSFM-administered safety framework for hydrogen pipelines meeting the statutory threshold established by the Legislature.

Although the proposed legislation would expand OSFM's role in hydrogen pipeline safety, federal jurisdiction would continue to govern interstate pipeline safety standards under the Pipeline Safety Act. California may obtain PHMSA certification to administer an interstate hydrogen pipeline safety program and may enter into agreements with PHMSA to assist with inspection activities involving interstate facilities. As noted in the Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee analysis, OSFM and the CPUC share the regulation over *intrastate* pipeline facilities. OSFM regulates intrastate hazardous *liquid* pipelines pursuant to the Elder California Pipeline Safety Act of 1981. Whereas the CPUC regulates intrastate *gas* pipelines (both natural gas and liquid petroleum gas). Implementation of SB 804 would require continued coordination among PHMSA, OSFM, and the CPUC to ensure consistent oversight while recognizing each agency's distinct statutory responsibilities.

Arguments in Support: The California State Pipe Trades Council writes in support, "as hydrogen plays an increasingly vital role in the state's clean energy future, this bill ensures the safe construction, monitoring, and operation of hydrogen pipelines to protect public health, property, and the environment. SB 804 provides a clear, forward-looking regulatory framework that supports the hydrogen industry's growth while maintaining the highest safety and environmental standards."

Arguments in Opposition: The Pipeline Safety Trust writes in opposition of SB 804 that this bill "would incorrectly delegate critical pipeline safety oversight authority of hydrogen pipelines to the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) instead of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). It is the Trust's position that this legislation has the potential to create unnecessary conflict and confusion among the two pipeline safety regulators in the state of California. The bill also fails to ensure or increase comprehensive safety oversight of hydrogen pipelines and has an extremely concerning exemption from the public participation requirements under the California Administrative Procedure Act (APA)." Related public protection and transparency, The Pipeline Safety Trust note section 51020.04(a) of this bill "includes an extremely concerning exemption from the public participation requirements of the California APA. Rules governing explosive pipelines near homes and businesses would be written with no public notice or comment. Rulemaking processes, including those related to hydrogen pipeline safety regulations, must allow for public notice and comment."

Committee Amendments: The author's office has worked on amendments to clarify and address conflicts within the bill, as noted by the Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy's analysis on previous committee on definition clarifications, regulatory oversight, timeline mismatches, easement considerations, fee fairness, and other technical and clarifying amendments.

The Committee recommends the following amendments:

Amendment 1

In the title, in line 1, after the first "to" insert:
amend Sections 51018.6, 51019, and 51019.1 of, and to

Amendment 2

In the title, in line 2, strike out the third "of" and insert:
of,

Amendment 3

On page 4, in line 4, strike out "chapter," and insert:
bill,

Amendment 4

On page 4, in line 5, strike out "exclusive"

Amendment 5

On page 4, between lines 14 and 15, insert:

SEC. 2. Section 51018.6 of the Government Code is amended to read:

51018.6. (a) The State Fire Marshal shall adopt regulations for conducting enforcement proceedings pursuant to this section. These regulations shall include provisions for the service and the content of the notice of probable violation, response options, conduct of hearings, issuing of the final order, amended final order, and petitions for reconsideration and compromise of penalties, and shall be consistent with the procedures specified in Subpart B (commencing with Section 190.201) of Part 190 of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) If the State Fire Marshal determines, pursuant to the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (a), that a person has violated this chapter or any regulation adopted pursuant thereto, that person is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed the amount specified in Section 190.223(a) of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(c) The amount of the penalty shall be assessed by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (a). In determining the amount of the penalty, the State Fire Marshal shall consider the nature, circumstances, and gravity of the violation and, with respect to the person found to have committed the violation, the degree of culpability, any history of prior violations, the effect on ability to continue to do business, any good faith attempts to achieve compliance, ability to pay the penalty, and any other matters as justice may require.

(d) A civil penalty assessed under subdivision (b) may be recovered in an action brought by the Attorney General on behalf of the state. Prior to referring the penalty action to the Attorney General, the State Fire Marshal may accept an offer to compromise the amount of the assessed penalty pursuant to the regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (a).

(e) The State Fire Marshal shall deposit all civil penalties assessed pursuant to this section in into the Local Training Account in into the California Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Fund. The money in the Local Training Account is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the State Fire Marshal, who shall use the money for providing hazardous liquid fire suppression training or first responder training for hazardous gas response and suppression to local fire departments.

SEC. 3. Section 51019 of the Government Code is amended to read:

51019. The State Fire Marshal may assess and collect from every pipeline operator and every hydrogen pipeline operator and every hydrogen pipeline operator an annual fee for the purpose of carrying out this chapter. chapter and Chapter 5.6 (commencing with Section 51020). The State Fire Marshal may assess this fee for expenses which that will be incurred during the following year. A pipeline operator and hydrogen pipeline operator shall pay this fee when billed by the State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal may impose a delinquency fee of 10 percent of the annual fee if the pipeline operator or hydrogen pipeline operator does not pay the fee within 60 days after receipt of the bill, and, in addition, the pipeline operator or hydrogen pipeline operator shall pay interest on that portion of its annual fee not paid within 60 days at the rate of 15 percent per annum from the date of receipt of the bill until paid. The total amount of the fee collected shall not exceed the actual expenses incurred, or the estimated expenses which that will be incurred, by the State Fire Marshal in carrying out this chapter. chapter and Chapter 5.6 (commencing with Section 51020).

SEC. 4. Section 51019.1 of the Government Code is amended to read:

51019.1. (a) There is hereby created the California Hazardous Liquid Pipeline Safety Fund, consisting of the Local Training Account and the Pipeline Operations Account.

(b) All fees collected pursuant to Sections 51019 and 51019.05 shall be deposited in into the Pipeline Operations Account. The money in the account is available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the State Fire Marshal for the purpose of carrying out this chapter. chapter and Chapter 5.6 (commencing with Section 51020).

Amendment 6

On page 4, in line 15, strike out “SEC. 2.” and insert:
SEC. 5.

Amendment 7

On page 4, in line 23, strike out “all of”

Amendment 8

On page 4, in line 29, after “prevent” insert:
or limit

Amendment 9

On page 4, in line 30, strike out “safety” and insert:
safety, emergency response,

Amendment 10

On page 4, in line 32, strike out “pipeline that has been”, strike out lines 33 to 35, inclusive, and insert:
transmission pipeline, including all pressure stations and valves that allow for safe pressuring and operations,

Amendment 11

On page 4, in line 37, after “intrastate” insert:
transmission

Amendment 12

On page 5, in line 12, after the period insert:
For purposes of this subparagraph, “production facility” means piping or equipment used in the production, extraction, recovery, lifting, stabilization, separation, or treatment of gas or associated storage or measurement.

Amendment 13

On page 5, strike out lines 16 to 21, inclusive

Amendment 14

On page 5, in line 22, strike out “adopt” and insert:
adopt, by July 1, 2028,

Amendment 15

On page 5, in line 27, strike out “Regulations” and strike out lines 28 to 36, inclusive

Amendment 16

On page 6, between lines 5 and 6, insert:

51020.05. The State Fire Marshal shall adopt, by July 1, 2028, in regulation a percentage of hydrogen gas by volume carried in a hydrogen pipeline for the purpose of identifying hydrogen pipelines. A percentage adopted by the State Fire Marshal for this purpose shall exceed 90 percent.

Amendment 17

On page 6, in line 6, after “51020.06.” insert:
(a)

Amendment 18

On page 6, in line 6, strike out “2027,” and insert:
2028,

Amendment 19

On page 6, in line 6, strike out “existing”

Amendment 20

On page 6, in line 7, after “operators” insert:
with pipelines constructed before the effective date of the hydrogen pipeline safety standards established by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 51020.04

Amendment 21

On page 6, in line 9, strike out “any” and insert:
Those

Amendment 22

On page 6, in lines 9 and 10, strike out “pipeline constructed before the adoption of this section.” and insert:
pipelines.

Amendment 23

On page 6, between lines 16 and 17, insert:

(b) Any repairs to hydrogen pipelines constructed before the effective date of the hydrogen pipeline safety standards established by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to Section 51020.04 that can accommodate instrumented internal inspection devices shall be done in a manner that will not interfere with the passage of these devices.

Amendment 24

On page 6, in line 19, after “pipelines” insert:
that are constructed on or after July 1, 2028,

Amendment 25

On page 6, in line 21, strike out “and” and insert:
and, on or before January 1, 2029,

Amendment 26

On page 6, in line 23, strike out “A hydrogen pipeline shall be” and insert:
Be

Amendment 27

On page 6, in line 32, strike out “A hydrogen pipeline shall be” and insert:
Be

Amendment 28

On page 6, in line 33, strike out “resistance” and insert:
having resistance

Amendment 29

On page 6, in line 35, strike out “shall”

Amendment 30

On page 6, in line 35, strike out “the requirements of Part 191” and strike out lines 36 and 37

Amendment 31

On page 7, in line 1, strike out “A hydrogen pipeline shall employ” and insert:
Employ

Amendment 32

On page 7, in line 4, strike out “All hydrogen pipelines shall be” and insert:

Be

Amendment 33

On page 7, in line 6, strike out “application.” and insert:
application, except upon a determination by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to subdivision (c).

Amendment 34

On page 7, in lines 7 and 8, strike out “Any new hydrogen pipeline, on which construction begins after January 1, 2026, shall be” and insert:
Be

Amendment 35

On page 7, in line 12, strike out “shall”

Amendment 36

On page 7, in line 14, strike out “Any repairs to existing”, strike out lines 15 to 20, inclusive, in line 21, strike out “(2)” and insert:

(b) The State Fire Marshal may establish in regulation hydrogen pipeline safety standards for hydrogen pipelines that have been constructed on or after July 1, 2028, that exceed the requirements of subdivision (a).

Amendment 37

On page 7, in line 21, strike out “Office of the”

Amendment 38

On page 7, in line 22, after “update” insert:
through regulation

Amendment 39

On page 7, strike out lines 25 to 30, inclusive

Amendment 40

On page 7, in lines 33 and 34, strike out “an existing” and insert:
a

Amendment 41

On page 7, in line 34, after “pipeline” insert:
that is constructed before July 1, 2028,

Amendment 42

On page 7, in line 36, strike out “Office of the”

Amendment 43

On page 8, in lines 10 and 11, strike out “newly constructed hydrogen pipeline, existing hydrogen pipeline, or”

Amendment 44

On page 8, in line 20, after “(c)” insert:

(1)

Amendment 45

On page 8, between lines 25 and 26, insert:

(2) If an operator requests an alternative to a pressure test and it is not approved, a pressure test shall be carried out at the time the alternative test would have been carried out. Subsequent tests shall be carried out in accordance with the time intervals prescribed by subdivision (a).

Amendment 46

On page 8, in line 29, strike out “inspections, which do not damage hydrogen”, strike out lines 30 and 31, in line 32, strike out “subdivision (a).” and insert:
inspections and pressure tests.

Amendment 47

On page 8, in lines 32 and 33, strike out “one of these tests is required on a hydrogen pipeline, it” and insert:
an operator requests an alternative test to those required in the regulations, the alternative test

Amendment 48

On page 8, in line 33, after “approved” insert:
or not approved

Amendment 49

On page 8, in line 34, strike out “If it is not approved, a pressure test” and strike out lines 35 to 37, inclusive

Amendment 50

On page 9, in line 38, strike out “On and after January 1, 2026, no” and insert:
No

Amendment 51

On page 10, in line 2, strike out the second “the” and insert:
that

Amendment 52

On page 10, in line 3, strike out “creation thereof.” and insert:
creation.

Amendment 53

On page 10, in line 5, strike out “which” and insert:
that

Amendment 54

On page 10, in line 6, after “the” insert:
easement or to any fixed leak detection, monitoring, or remote-sensing equipment installed by the operator within or adjacent to the

Amendment 55

On page 10, in line 7, strike out “the” and insert:
that

Amendment 56

On page 10, in line 7, strike out “creation thereof.” and insert:
creation.

Amendment 57

On page 10, in line 9, after “aerial” insert:
or other remote

Amendment 58

On page 10, strike out lines 16 to 20, inclusive, and insert:

(c) The State Fire Marshal may adopt regulations for the implementation of this section.

Amendment 59

On page 11, in line 20, strike out “least once each calendar year” and insert:
a frequency that the State Fire Marshal adopts through regulation

Amendment 60

On page 12, in line 15, strike out “51020.40” and insert:
51019

Amendment 61

On page 13, in line 2, strike out “pipeline described in paragraph” and strike out line 3

Amendment 62

On page 13, in line 25, strike out “section,” and insert:
section and Sections 51020.26 and 51020.38,

Amendment 63

On page 13, strike out line 27 and insert:
testing.

Amendment 64

On page 14, in line 21, strike out “in” and insert:
into

Amendment 65

On page 14, in line 22, strike out “Hydrogen”

Double Referral: This bill is double referred. The Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy approved this bill on June 24, 2026 on an 17-0-1 vote.

Related Legislation:

SB 1350 (McNerney) of this Session. This bill defines a facility that converts hydrogen gas to electricity in a turbine as a renewable electrical generation facility for purposes of eligibility under the existing statutory Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) Program, if certain conditions are met. Pending in Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

AB 716 (Carrillo, 2025) requires the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) to adopt the National Fire Protection Association Hydrogen Technologies Code as the statewide fire safety standards and guidelines for hydrogen production, storage, and distribution facilities, as specified. Status: Held under submission in the Senate Committee on Appropriations.

SB 614 (Stern), Chapter 529, Statute of 2025. This bill requires OSFM to adopt regulations by July 1, 2026, to regulate the transportation of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in a pipeline, including certain specified safety standards that, at a minimum, are as protective as the draft regulations proposed by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA).

AB 2204 (Bennett, 2024). This bill would have established a goal, by an unspecified date, for all in-state hydrogen production, and specifically exclude any fossil fuel use as either a feedstock or energy source in the production process. It would also require the hydrogen to show the use of new and incremental renewable generation, temporal matching, and geographic deliverability. Held in Assembly Committee on Utilities and Energy.

SB 1418 (Archuleta), Chapter 607, Statutes of 2024. This bill requires every city and county to adopt an ordinance to create an expedited, streamlined permitting process for hydrogen-fueling stations.

SB 1420 (Caballero), Chapter 608, Statutes of 2024. This bill provides for expedited California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and California Energy Commission (CEC) review for hydrogen production facilities that have received state or federal funding.

AB 1550 (Bennett, 2023) required, on and after January 1, 2045, all hydrogen produced and used in California for either the generation of electricity or the fueling of vehicles be “renewable hydrogen of biological origin” or “renewable hydrogen of nonbiological origin.” Died on Assembly Floor.

SB 414 (Allen, 2023) required CARB, upon appropriation, to complete an assessment of the use of hydrogen in specified applications. Status: Held in Assembly Committee on Appropriations.

SB 1075 (Skinner), Chapter 363, Statutes of 2022. This bill directs CARB, in consultation with the CPUC and CEC, to develop an evaluation by June 1, 2024, which includes, among other topics, policy recommendations regarding the use of green hydrogen in the state, and an estimate of reduced GHG emissions achievable through the use of green hydrogen.

AB 157 (Committee on Budget), Chapter 567, Statutes of 2018. This bill authorized GO-Biz to take steps to prepare and submit an application to receive funding from the regional clean hydrogen hubs program or to otherwise participate in the regional clean hydrogen hubs program. The bill also established a definition of clean hydrogen.

SB 1369 (Skinner), Chapter 567, Statutes of 2018. This bill requires the CPUC, CARB, and CEC to consider green electrolytic hydrogen an eligible form of energy storage, and to consider other potential uses of green electrolytic hydrogen.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

California State Pipe Trades Council

Opposition

Pipeline Safety Trust

Oppose Unless Amended

Air Products and Chemicals, INC.

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