

HR 2643

Offshore Pipeline Safety Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Energy

Introduced: Apr 19, 2021

Current Status: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 456.

Latest Action: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 456. (Dec 14, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2643>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (11 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Grijalva, Raúl M. [D-AZ-3]	D · AZ		Apr 19, 2021
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Apr 19, 2021
Rep. Porter, Katie [D-CA-45]	D · CA		May 18, 2021
Rep. Levin, Mike [D-CA-49]	D · CA		Oct 5, 2021
Rep. Cohen, Steve [D-TN-9]	D · TN		Oct 8, 2021
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Feb 25, 2022
Rep. Lieu, Ted [D-CA-33]	D · CA		Feb 25, 2022
Rep. Matsui, Doris O. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Feb 25, 2022
Rep. McNerney, Jerry [D-CA-9]	D · CA		Feb 25, 2022
Rep. Quigley, Mike [D-IL-5]	D · IL		Feb 25, 2022
Rep. Ross, Deborah K. [D-NC-2]	D · NC		Feb 25, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Discharged from	Oct 13, 2021

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Energy

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Offshore Pipeline Safety Act

This bill establishes requirements to address the environmental risks of decommissioned oil and gas pipelines on the seafloor.

Specifically, the bill requires the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement (BSEE) to finalize regulations proposed in 2007 related to offshore pipelines. The regulations must require owners of oil and gas pipelines to provide for biannual, third-party inspections of pipelines and to equip pipelines with leak detection systems or devices. Further, the BSEE must issue regulations to charge an annual fee on such owners for the purpose of providing the BSEE with funds to decommission or remove offshore pipelines in the event the owner files for bankruptcy.

When determining whether to permit an owner to decommission such pipelines, the BSEE must consider the navigational hazards, any interferences with other uses of the Outer Continental Shelf, and the environmental impacts of the pipelines.

In addition, the BSEE must continually monitor the condition and location of all oil and gas pipelines that have been decommissioned and remain in place. If the BSEE identifies an exposed segment of any active or decommissioned pipeline, then it must either remove the pipeline from the ocean or ensure it is properly decommissioned and does not pose a threat. If a segment of any active pipeline is exposed or shifts, then the BSEE must resecure the segment to the sea floor.

Actions Timeline

- **Dec 14, 2022:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Natural Resources. H. Rept. 117-633.
- **Dec 14, 2022:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 456.
- **Oct 13, 2021:** Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources Discharged.
- **Oct 13, 2021:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Oct 13, 2021:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by the Yeas and Nays: 25 - 18.
- **May 13, 2021:** Subcommittee Hearings Held.
- **May 10, 2021:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Apr 19, 2021:** Introduced in House
- **Apr 19, 2021:** Referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources.