



State of Wisconsin  
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-0792/P1  
KP:cjs

DOA:.....Sherwin, BB0050 - Gas pipeline safety violations

**FOR 2023-2025 BUDGET -- NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION**

**AN ACT ...; relating to:** the budget.

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*Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

**STATE GOVERNMENT**

**PUBLIC UTILITY REGULATION**

***Penalties for gas pipeline safety violations***

The bill increases the maximum penalties for persons who fail to operate and maintain gas production, transmission, and distribution facilities in a reasonably adequate and safe manner. Current law requires gas production, transmission, and distribution facilities to be operated and maintained in a reasonably adequate and safe manner and authorizes the PSC to issue orders and rules to promote safety of those facilities. Under current law, a person who violates one of these PSC orders or rules or fails to operate and maintain gas production, transmission, and distribution facilities in a reasonably adequate and safe manner is subject to a forfeiture of up to \$25,000 per day and a total forfeiture of up to \$500,000 for a single persisting violation. Under the bill, a violator is subject to a forfeiture of up to \$200,000 per day and a total forfeiture of up to \$2,000,000 for a single persisting violation.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

**SECTION 1.** 196.745 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

196.745 (2) (a) Any person violating sub. (1) (a), or any order or rule issued under sub. (1) (a), shall forfeit an amount not exceeding ~~\$25,000~~ \$200,000. Each day of violation is a separate violation of sub. (1) (a). No person may forfeit an amount exceeding ~~\$500,000~~ \$2,000,000 for a single persisting violation of sub. (1) (a) or any order or any rule issued under sub. (1) (a). The commission shall remit all forfeitures paid under this paragraph to the secretary of administration for deposit in the school fund.

(END)