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AOPL APPLAUDS HOUSE PASSAGE OF PIPELINE SAFETY BILL

WASHINGTON, DC – Today, the Association of Oil Pipe Lines (AOPL) applauded passage of pipeline safety legislation by the U.S. House of Representatives. The Protecting our Infrastructure of Pipelines and Enhancing Safety Act of 2016 or PIPES Act of 2016 would reauthorize federal pipeline safety laws and programs.

“The PIPES Act provides new tools to PHMSA and pipeline operators for the safe operation of pipelines,” said Andy Black, President and CEO of AOPL.

The PIPES Act ensures pipeline operators receive timely post-inspection information from the government to allow them to maintain and improve their safety efforts, increases inspection requirements for certain underwater oil pipelines to enhance safety, ensures that product composition information is quickly provided to first responders after an incident and improves protection of coastal areas, marine coastal waters, and the Great Lakes by explicitly designating them as unusually environmentally sensitive to pipeline failures.

Federal law and regulation combine with pipeline industry recommended practices and the safety programs of pipeline operators to keep pipelines safe. Each year, pipeline operators spend over \$2 billion to evaluate, maintain and perform preventative maintenance on their pipelines. The result is pipelines are the safest way to move liquid energy products across the nation. A barrel of crude oil or petroleum products reaches its destination safely by pipeline 99.999% of the time.

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