



October 16, 2025

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Chairman,  
Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Ranking Member,  
Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Senator Cantwell:

I am writing on behalf of the Mechanical Contractors Association of America (MCAA) to advise you of our strong support for S. 2975, the “Pipeline Integrity, Protection, and Enhancement for Leveraging Investments in the Nation’s Energy to assure Safety (PIPELINE Safety) Act.” This important legislation would strengthen the nation’s energy infrastructure and enhance the safety of workers and communities.

MCAA is comprised of more than 3,000 specialty construction contracting members from across the United States. Our members are deeply involved in the construction and maintenance of the systems that power and protect America’s energy networks—from natural gas and hydrogen pipelines to carbon capture and distribution facilities. Our organization’s highest priorities are worker safety, reliability, innovation, and sustainable economic growth. The *PIPELINE Safety Act* reflects these same principles by coupling strong safety standards with modern tools and programs that will help our nation meet its future energy needs.

The MCAA appreciates the legislation’s focus on emerging fuels and energy transition technologies. Specifically, the bill’s requirements for studies and potential rulemakings related to hydrogen blending and carbon dioxide pipelines are important steps to ensure the safe evolution of American energy systems. MCAA members are already constructing and maintaining hydrogen and carbon dioxide systems that would benefit from additional clarity from PHMSA and the Department of Transportation that will allow for increased investments in workforce training, new materials, and fabrication methods.

The reauthorization of PHMSA’s grant programs and the creation of dedicated Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization funding in the bill are equally important. These programs allow municipalities and community-owned utilities to upgrade aging infrastructure, improve leak detection, and enhance emergency response. These investments strengthen safety and support good-paying, skilled jobs in the mechanical and construction industries—providing Americans with stable employment, apprenticeship opportunities, and pathways to long-term careers in these sectors.



The MCAA also appreciates the bill's focus on the use of risk-based inspections and alternative safety technologies. By allowing PHMSA to approve certified state pipeline safety programs to implement risk-based integrated inspection programs, and to codify the use of unmanned aircraft systems and other advanced inspection tools, S. 2975 will make oversight both safer and more efficient. Likewise, empowering PHMSA to consider new or alternative safety technologies that meet or exceed existing standards will spur innovation among contractors and equipment manufacturers working to detect leaks, monitor corrosion, and manage system integrity.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our views on this important legislation, and we respectfully urge the Committee to expeditiously advance S. 2975 to the full Senate. The MCAA and our members are available to serve as partners to the Committee as it works toward the shared goal of a safer, more modern, and more resilient pipeline network for the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "James B. Gaffney". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

James Gaffney  
Chairman  
MCAA Government Affairs Committee