



Logan County Board

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March 20, 2024

Representative William E Hauter
Representative 87th District
133 S. Main St.
Suite A
Morton, IL 62550

Dear Representative Hauter,

On behalf of the Logan County Board, I am writing to express our strong support for House Bill 4835, the Safety Moratorium on Carbon Dioxide Pipelines Act. We believe that this bill is a vital step towards ensuring the safety and well-being of our communities, particularly in light of the potential risks associated with carbon dioxide pipelines.

House Bill 4835 proposes the establishment of a temporary statewide moratorium on the construction of carbon dioxide pipelines until revised federal safety standards for their transportation are adopted by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), and the State has conducted and finalized a comprehensive study on safety setbacks in the event of pipeline rupture or leak. This proactive approach aligns with our commitment to prioritizing the safety of our residents and environment.

The requirement for a state study, as outlined in House Bill 4835, underscores the importance of thorough analysis and input from first responders. By examining pipeline ruptures or leaks across various settings and recommending setbacks and funding based on this analysis, the State study ensures that safety measures are informed by real-world scenarios and tailored to our specific needs.

Furthermore, we appreciate the provision in House Bill 4835 to hold pending applications for carbon dioxide pipelines in abeyance during the moratorium period. This ensures that no new projects are initiated until adequate safety standards are in place, thus minimizing potential risks to our communities.

The temporary nature of the moratorium, set to expire after four years or upon the establishment of new safety standards, demonstrates a balanced approach towards addressing safety concerns. We also acknowledge the criteria outlined for the expiration of the moratorium, which ensures that any new legislation meets stringent safety requirements before pipelines can be constructed.

In conclusion, the Logan County Board wholeheartedly supports House Bill 4835 and urges its swift passage. We believe that enacting this legislation will serve to protect our communities, preserve our environment, and promote responsible infrastructure development.

Sincerely,

Emily Davenport
Logan County Board Chairman