

House Study Bill 50 - Introduced

SENATE/HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED DEPARTMENT OF
COMMERCE/UTILITIES DIVISION
BILL)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act increasing civil penalties applicable to specified
2 pipeline safety violations.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 479.31, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
2 2013, is amended to read as follows:

3 A person who violates this chapter or any rule or order
4 issued pursuant to this chapter shall be subject to a civil
5 penalty levied by the board not to exceed ~~ten~~ one hundred
6 thousand dollars for each violation. Each day that the
7 violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.
8 However, the maximum civil penalty shall not exceed ~~five~~
9 ~~hundred thousand~~ one million dollars for any related series of
10 violations. Civil penalties collected pursuant to this section
11 shall be credited to and are appropriated for the Iowa energy
12 center created in section 266.39C.

13 EXPLANATION

14 This bill increases civil penalties applicable to violations
15 of Code chapter 479, relating to pipelines and underground
16 gas storage. Currently, violations of the Code chapter, or
17 an administrative rule or order relating to the Code chapter,
18 are subject to a civil penalty levied by the Iowa utilities
19 board not to exceed \$10,000 per violation, subject to a
20 \$500,000 maximum. The bill increases these limits to \$100,000
21 and \$1 million, respectively. Civil penalties collected for
22 violations of the Code chapter are credited to and appropriated
23 for the Iowa energy center created in Code section 266.39C.