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EXEMPT GAS SAFETY STANDARDS FROM APA

House Bill 5545

Sponsor: Rep. Dennis Olshove

Committee: Public Utilities

Complete to 2-13-98

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5545 AS INTRODUCED 2-5-98

The bill would amend the Administrative Procedures Act (APA) to provide a special rules process for rules promulgated under the Gas Safety Standards Act that were substantially similar to existing federal standards adopted under the Federal Pipeline Safety Laws.

Specifically, the bill would require that notice of a hearing on the proposed rule be published as soon as possible after the rule was submitted to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. The committee would have to set the date and time for the public hearing on the rule for no less than 30 days before and no more than 60 days after the agency submitted the rule to the committee. The notice would have to include the following: a reference to the statutory authority under which the action was proposed; the time and place of the public hearing and a statement of the manner in which data, views, questions, and arguments could be submitted to the agency; a statement of the terms or substance of the proposed rule; a description of the subjects and issues involved; and the proposed effective date of the rule. In addition, before the hearing, notice would have to be published in at least three newspapers of general circulation in different parts of the state; at least one of these papers would have to be in the Upper Peninsula.

[Note: The term "substantially similar" is already defined within the APA as meaning identical, with the exception of style or format differences needed to conform to the APA or other state laws, as determined by the Department of Attorney General.]

MCL 24.242

Analyst: W. Flory

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.