Pipeline Safety Program Amendments; SB 374

SB 374 amends the law regarding the pipeline safety program operated by the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). The bill makes the following changes:

- Citations of the federal statutes referenced as the source of Kansas' pipeline safety regulations are updated;
- The aggregate maximum civil penalty for any related series of violations is increased from \$500,000 to \$1.0 million; and
- The requirement to pay an annual fee to the KCC to recover a portion of the costs of safety inspections is extended to all pipeline operators subject to KCC regulatory oversight. Currently, 55 of the 127 operators of intrastate natural gas pipelines are not assessed a fee for safety inspections.