

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4910

To prohibit the use of eminent domain for the construction or expansion of a natural gas pipe line through land conserved by certain land trusts and local governments, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 29, 2019

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire (for herself, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. MALINOWSKI, Mr. QUIGLEY, and Mr. HUFFMAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit the use of eminent domain for the construction or expansion of a natural gas pipe line through land conserved by certain land trusts and local governments, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Protecting Our Con-
5 served Lands Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON THE USE OF EMINENT DOMAIN.**

7 Section 7(h) of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C.
8 717f(h)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “When” and inserting “(1)
2 When”; and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following new
4 paragraph:

5 “(2) Beginning on January 1, 2022, notwithstanding
6 paragraph (1), a holder of a certificate of public conven-
7 ience and necessity may not exercise the right of eminent
8 domain to acquire land or other property necessary to con-
9 struct, operate, or maintain a pipe line for the transpor-
10 tation of natural gas, or any station or equipment nec-
11 essary to the proper operation of such pipe line, any part
12 of which will be located on land that is—

13 “(A) subject to a conservation easement or
14 other conservation-related restriction by an organiza-
15 tion described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal
16 Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from taxation
17 under section 501(a) of such Code;

18 “(B) owned by or deeded to an organization de-
19 scribed in subparagraph (A) for the purpose of con-
20 servation;

21 “(C) subject to a conservation easement or
22 other conservation-related restriction by a municipi-
23 pality, county, or other division of local government;
24 or

1 “(D) owned by or deeded to a municipality,
2 county, or other division or subdivision of local gov-
3 ernment for the purpose of conservation.”.

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