

Support SB 2842/HB 5786: No Eminent Domain for CO₂ Pipelines

July 18, 2026

Q: What is the purpose of SB2842/HB 5786 legislation?

A: The purpose is to ban eminent domain in Illinois for CO₂ pipeline permits, allowing landowners the power to negotiate to protect property rights, to support farmland productivity, and to improve the safety of CO₂ pipeline routes. 82% of Illinois voters polled oppose the use of eminent domain for CO₂ pipelines (July 2024 poll commissioned by BOLD Alliance and conducted by Embold Research). Political support is bipartisan.

Q: But didn't the 2024 SAFE CCS Act set a threshold for voluntary easement agreements before granting eminent domain for the remaining parcels?

A: No, the 75% threshold only applies to assembling pore space for carbon dioxide storage sites. The bill does not set limits on the use of eminent domain for CO₂ pipelines. This is unequal treatment and unfair.

Q: Why not just leave the determination of eminent domain for CO₂ pipelines to the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC)?

A: The ICC does not have a voluntary easement threshold for CO₂ pipelines. Non-consenting landowners along a CO₂ pipeline route feel compelled to officially intervene in the ICC proceedings, which is extremely burdensome—in both time and money—and can cost as much as \$150,000 or more.

Q: How would eliminating eminent domain for CO₂ pipeline companies create a fairer deal for landowners?

A: Threatening the use of eminent domain for a CO₂ pipeline creates an adversarial relationship between private CO₂ pipeline companies and landowners. It gives the companies an unfair advantage in negotiations. Prohibiting the use of eminent domain would:

- Protect landowner property rights. Landowners should have the right to say no to a hazardous waste pipeline OR to negotiate more favorable terms and routing.
- Improve CO₂ pipeline safety. Neither the U.S. Government nor the State of Illinois imposes setbacks for CO₂ pipelines, even though these pipelines transport a toxic asphyxiant and are dangerous. Eliminating the option of eminent domain could force the private CO₂ pipeline companies to propose safe routing to obtain voluntary right-of-way easements from landowners.
- Support farmland productivity. Published research studies document sustained yield losses over a pipeline right-of-way. Farmers should have the ability to reject a private CO₂ pipeline OR to negotiate a route that would minimize impacts to fields, drainage tiles, and buildings.

Q: Doesn't the construction and operation of CO₂ pipelines bring jobs to Illinois?

A: CO₂ pipeline projects create few permanent jobs, and companies do not guarantee ANY Illinois jobs for construction or operations. Also, it is a violation of property rights to forcibly take someone's land to create a temporary job for someone else. Family farms and homes exist for their livelihoods, not to provide job sites and profits for private CO₂ pipeline companies.

Q: Is there a difference between a CO₂ pipeline and oil and gas pipelines?

A: Yes. CO₂ pipelines transport toxic, hazardous waste, not oil, gas, or any other product that can be used to generate energy. Using eminent domain for a CO₂ pipeline places people and livestock within 2 miles of either side in grave danger if the pipeline leaks or ruptures.

Q: Which organizations are endorsing this bill?

A: Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois Soybean Association, Illinois Chapter of the Sierra Club, and the Illinois Environmental Council, along with an additional 30 county, faith-based, community, and environmental organizations. Political support is bipartisan. A partial current list is on the reverse side.

Citizens Against Heartland Greenwashing Projects (CAHGP)

Contact Kathleen Campbell at kcampbell03@gmx.com

For more information visit NoIllinoisCO2Pipelines.org

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SB2842 was filed by Senator Michael Halpin. Sponsors to date include Senator Steven McClure (Chief Co-Sponsor), Senator Sally Turner, Senator Paul Faraci, Senator Doris Turner, Senator Rachel Ventura, Senator Graciela Guzman, Senator Laura Fine, Senator Suzy Glowiak Hilton, Senator Patrick Joyce, Senator Mike Simmons, Senator Laura Murphy, Senator Chris Balkema, Senator Terri Bryant, Senator Neil Anderson, Senator Emil Jones III, Senator Li Arellano, Jr., Senator Javier L. Cervantes, Senator Lakesia Collins, Senator Dave Syverson, Senator Adriane Johnson, Senator Jil Tracy, Senator Cristina Castro, Senator Mary Edley-Allen

HB5786 was filed by Representative Theresa Mah

Endorsed by over 30 organizations across industries, coalitions, and jurisdictions, including:

Agricultural Organizations

Illinois Farm Bureau
Illinois Soybean Association

Coalitions

Coalition for Springfield's Utility Future
Coalition to Stop CO₂ Pipelines
Faith Coalition for the Common Good

Jurisdictions

Brown County Board
Christian County Board
Fulton County Board
McDonough County Bethel Township
McDonough County Board
Montgomery County Board
Montgomery County Rountree Township
Montgomery County Audubon Township
Montgomery County Soil and Water Conservation District
Sangamon County Board

Organizations

Citizens Against Predatory Pipelines (CAPP)
Climate Reality Chicago Metro Chapter of Climate Reality Project
Eco-Justice Collaborative
Fox Valley Citizens for Peace & Justice
Illinois Association of Drainage Districts
Illinois Environmental Council
Illinois Land Improvement Contractors Association
Illinois People's Action
Illinois Third Act
NWSOFA Indivisible
Prairie Rivers Network
Save Our Illinois Land (SOIL)
Sierra Club Illinois
Sustainable Springfield

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