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Testimony of  
Senator David Woodsome presenting *LD 405*,  
*"An Act to Make Changes to the So-called Dig Safe Law"*

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Representative Berry, and distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, I am Senator David Woodsome and I am here today to present to you, *LD 405, "An Act To Make Changes to the So-called Dig Safe Law."*

During the 2012 session, the Legislature amended the definition of underground facility to exempt what are referred to as non-jurisdictional LPG distribution systems. Non-jurisdictional LPG distribution systems are often small systems that serve fewer than 10 customers and are not located in a public place or that serve a single customer. However, this definition also includes larger underground facilities serving single customers including, for example, the Augusta Civic Center and large retail stores (e.g., Walmart) that are located in a public place.

The Commission understood the exemption was being crafted to address a short underground line from a propane tank to a camp or residence. The Commission agreed that it made sense to exempt this type of situation; however, the language that was enacted also exempts larger underground systems as described above.

The Commission continues to believe that continued exemption of these larger LPG systems from the Dig Safe law may pose a danger to excavators and the public. For that reason, the Commission proposes to make large non-jurisdictional LPG distribution systems (those with a cumulative tank capacity of over 2,000 gallons) subject to the Dig Safe law. Certainly, the Commission seeks to reduce the impact on businesses to the extent possible and believes, given the history described above, that this is a proper step.

For additional questions, the Commission is here to provide additional info on *LD 405*