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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**H. R.** \_\_\_\_\_

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.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**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”.

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

2 Section 7(h) of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C.  
3 717f(h)) is amended—

4 (1) by striking “When” and inserting “(1)  
5 When”; and

6 (2) by adding at the end the following new  
7 paragraph:

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

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

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

24 “(C) subject to a conservation easement or  
25 other conservation-related restriction by a munic-

1           pality, county, or other division of local government;

2           or

3                   “(D) owned by or deeded to a municipality,

4           county, or other division or subdivision of local gov-

5           ernment for the purpose of conservation.”.