

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT September 27, 2010 Ali Bay (Leno): (916) 651-Taryn Kinney (Padilla): (916) 651-4020

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## Senators Leno & Padilla Announce October 19 Joint Hearing on the San Bruno Explosion

SACRAMENTO – State Senators Alex Padilla and Mark L eno announced the date of the Senate's first hearing on the San Bruno explosion. The Senate Public Safety Committee, chaired by Senator Leno, and the Senate Energy, Utilities & Communications Committee, chaired by Senator Padilla, will convene a hearing on Tuesday, October 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the State Capitol (Room 4203) that will focus on the maintenance of natural gas pipelines and how similar tragedies can be prevented in the future.

"With seven lives tragically lost, more than 50 people injured, and 37 homes destroyed, clearly the state needs to do more to ensure natural gas pipeline safety," said Senator Padilla (D-Pacoima). "The Committees will ask the tough questions about inspections and maintenance of the natural gas pipeline transmission system and what changes should be made to better protect the public and meet the highest safety standards," he added.

"There are questions that need to be answered about the tragic explosion that destroyed a San Bruno neighborhood earlier this month," said Senator Leno (D-San Francisco). "We hope to have thoughtful and deliberative public hearings that closely examine the roles and responsibilities of PG&E and the CPUC regarding gas pipeline safety. From that discussion, my hope is that we can develop the comprehensive reforms that are needed to better protect our communities and avert another catastrophe like this."

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