HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO IDENTIFY AND REMOVE ANY REDUNDANT UTILITY POLES ON OAHU.

WHEREAS, Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (Hawaiian Electric) is a utility company in the State that provides electric services via lines using wooden poles within existing city and state street right-of-ways to residential communities and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Hawaiian Electric owns over 100,000 utility poles on the island of Oahu; and

WHEREAS, when new utility poles are installed adjacent to an existing utility pole for the purpose of transferring electric, telephone, cable, or other wires from one pole to another, the original pole is often left in place, resulting in what is referred to as double poles; and

WHEREAS, these double poles are in need of removal because of their close proximity to each other, which creates redundancies in the placement of utility poles; and

WHEREAS, a number of wooden utility poles are also in need of removal due to age, soil conditions, termite infestation, and other issues that cause the poles to be significantly out of position, aesthetically unsightly, or susceptible to falling during times of adverse weather; and

WHEREAS, the removal of unnecessary and unsightly utility poles will eliminate a potential public hazard, beautify and organize utility pole lines, and favorably influence the surrounding community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session

of 2022, that Hawaiian Electric is requested to conduct a study to identify and remove any redundant utility poles on Oahu; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaiian Electric is requested to consider in its study ways to reduce risk while increasing efficiency when removing redundant utility poles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Hawaiian Electric is requested to submit a report of its study including findings and recommendations and any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the President and Chief Executive Officer of Hawaiian Electric.

OFFERED BY:

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