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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO UTILITIES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

- 1           SECTION 1. (a) The public utilities commission shall  
2 explore, through its docket process, the feasibility of  
3 relocating above-ground electric transmission lines and  
4 distribution lines underground in high risk areas on the island  
5 of Maui. The assessment shall include but not be limited to:
- 6           (1) The amortized costs of relocating above-ground  
7                 electric transmission and distribution lines  
8                 underground;
- 9           (2) The risk of damage to the above-ground lines from  
10                 reasonably foreseeable high winds, wildfires, or other  
11                 natural adverse events that have historically  
12                 occurred;
- 13           (3) The risk of damage to the above-ground and underground  
14                 lines from projected sea level rise in the area where  
15                 lines are located;
- 16           (4) The risk posed to the surrounding area from damage to  
17                 the above-ground lines, including but not limited to:



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1 (A) The potential for igniting wildfires; and  
2 (B) Road closures, especially roads that provide  
3 access to critical infrastructure, such as  
4 hospitals.

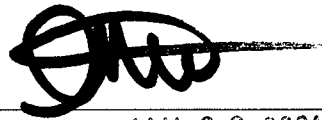
5 (b) The public utilities commission shall submit a report  
6 to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
7 convening of the regular session of 2022. If relocating above-  
8 ground electric transmission lines and distribution lines  
9 underground in high risk areas on the island of Maui is deemed  
10 feasible, the public utilities commission shall include proposed  
11 plans and associated deadlines for this relocation in its report  
12 to the legislature.

13 (c) For purposes of this Act, "high risk areas" includes  
14 areas susceptible to frequent high winds and wildfires or areas  
15 considered to be sea level rise exposure areas.

16 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 22 2021



# H.B. NO. 592

**Report Title:**

Maui County; Electrical Transmission Lines; Public Utilities Commission; Docket; Feasibility Assessment

**Description:**

Requires the public utilities commission to explore, through its docket process, the feasibility of relocating above-ground electrical transmission lines and distribution lines underground in high-risk areas on the island of Maui. Requires the public utilities commission to submit a report to the legislature prior to the regular session of 2022.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

