H.B. NO. (680

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The public utilities commission shall 2 direct each electric and gas utility company in the State to 3 file proposals with the public utilities commission by 4 January 1, 2025, for programs to provide benefits to residential 5 property owners that: 6 (1) Reside in fire-prone areas within the service 7 territory of the electric or gas utility company; and 8 (2) Install improvements to reduce or eliminate the 9 impacts of wildfires on their residential properties 10 or purchase emergency equipment or supplies for use in

11 deenergization events.

Benefits shall include but not be limited to financialassistance, rebates, subsidized tariffs or rates, and payment

14 programs.

(b) The public utilities commission may approve a program
pursuant to chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes; provided that
the program or programs are found to be in the public interest.

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H.B. NO.1680

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. 1

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 1 7 2024



H.B. NO. 680

Report Title:

PUC; Electric and Gas Utility Companies; Residential Property Wildfire Mitigation; Benefits Program

Description:

Requires the Public Utilities Commission to direct each electric and gas utility company in the State to file proposals for programs to provide certain benefits to residential property owners in fire-prone areas to reduce or eliminate the impacts of wildfires on residential properties or to purchase emergency equipment or supplies for use in deenergization events.

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