A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS FOR ELECTRIC PUBLIC UTILITIES.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds and declares that the
- 2 issuance of special purpose revenue bonds under this Act is in
- 3 the public interest and for the public health, safety, and
- 4 general welfare.
- 5 SECTION 2. Pursuant to part VI, chapter 39A, Hawaii
- 6 Revised Statutes, the department of budget and finance, with the
- 7 approval of the governor, is authorized to issue special purpose
- 8 revenue bonds in a total amount not to exceed \$700,000,000, in
- 9 one or more series, for the purpose of assisting Hawaiian
- 10 Electric Company, Inc., and including its subsidiaries Maui
- 11 Electric Company, Limited, and Hawaii Electric Light Company,
- 12 Inc., Hawaii corporations, for multi-project capital improvement
- 13 programs, including costs to cover the acquisition of land or
- 14 the construction or acquisition of facilities used or related to
- 15 the production, transmission, or distribution of electricity, or
- 16 any combination thereof; provided that the approval of the

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- 1 public utilities commission shall be required for any project
- 2 financed by the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds under
- 3 this Act. The special purpose revenue bonds shall be issued for
- 4 the aforementioned purposes in the following distribution:
- 5 (1) Up to \$400,000,000 for Hawaiian Electric Company,
- 6 Inc.;
- 7 (2) Up to \$150,000,000 for Maui Electric Company, Limited;
- 8 and
- 9 (3) Up to \$150,000,000 for Hawaii Electric Light Company,
- 10 Inc.;
- 11 provided that any benefits or savings realized due to the
- 12 issuance of these special purpose revenue bonds shall be
- 13 apportioned to ratepayers.
- 14 The legislature hereby finds and determines that the
- 15 capital improvement projects and programs of Hawaiian Electric
- 16 Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company, Limited, and Hawaii
- 17 Electric Light Company, Inc., constitute a project as defined in
- 18 part VI, chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and the financing
- 19 thereof is assistance to utilities serving the general public in
- 20 providing electric energy.

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- 1 SECTION 3. The special purpose revenue bonds and the
- 2 refunding special purpose revenue bonds issued under this Act
- 3 shall be issued pursuant to part VI, chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised
- 4 Statutes, relating to the power to issue special purpose revenue
- 5 bonds to assist utilities serving the general public in
- 6 providing electric energy.
- 7 SECTION 4. The department of budget and finance is
- 8 authorized, from time to time, including times subsequent to
- 9 June 30, 2024, to issue special purpose revenue bonds in
- 10 whatever principal amounts the department shall determine to be
- 11 necessary to refund the special purpose revenue bonds authorized
- 12 in section 2 and to refund special purpose revenue bonds
- 13 authorized in this section, regardless of whether the
- 14 outstanding special purpose revenue bonds or refunding special
- 15 purpose revenue bonds have matured or are the subject of
- 16 redemption or whether the refunding special purpose revenue
- 17 bonds shall be bonds for the multi-project programs described in
- 18 section 2. In making this determination, the department shall
- 19 comply with federal law relating to the exemption from federal
- 20 income taxation of the interest on bonds of the nature
- 21 authorized by this section.

- 1 SECTION 5. The authorization to issue special purpose
- 2 revenue bonds under this Act shall lapse on June 30, 2029.
- 3 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 1698

Report Title:

Special Purpose Revenue Bonds; HECO; MECO; HELCO; CIP; Capital Improvement Programs

Description:

Authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds for Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. and its subsidiaries Maui Electric Company and Hawaii Electric Light Company for multi-project capital improvement programs.

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