

MAR 16 2026

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COORDINATE WITH UTILITY PROVIDERS OPERATING WITHIN STATE HIGHWAY RIGHTS-OF-WAY TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE PLAN AND SCHEDULE TO ADDRESS DERELICT OR AGING UTILITY POLES AND LINES ALONG FARRINGTON HIGHWAY AND OTHER HIGH-RISK CORRIDORS.

1           WHEREAS, public safety along state highways is of paramount  
2 importance, particularly in coastal, high-wind, and heavily  
3 traveled corridors; and  
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5           WHEREAS, aging, damaged, or derelict utility poles and  
6 overhead lines located within state highway rights-of-way may  
7 pose safety hazards to motorists, pedestrians, bicyclists, and  
8 nearby residents; and  
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10           WHEREAS, Farrington Highway serves as a major  
11 transportation artery for the Leeward Coast of Oahu and has  
12 experienced incidents involving downed or deteriorated utility  
13 infrastructure, raising concerns regarding resilience, safety,  
14 and emergency access; and  
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16           WHEREAS, similar conditions may exist along other high-risk  
17 state highway corridors that are vulnerable to severe weather  
18 events, coastal erosion, traffic impacts, or deferred  
19 maintenance; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation plays a critical  
22 role in coordinating infrastructure planning and maintenance  
23 activities within those corridors; and  
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25           WHEREAS, utility providers operate infrastructure within  
26 state highway rights-of-way pursuant to permits, easements, or  
27 other agreements and share responsibility for the maintenance,  
28 repair, and replacement of their infrastructure; and



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WHEREAS, a coordinated, data-driven, and phased statewide to address this aging infrastructure plan could improve public safety, enhance infrastructure resilience, clarify maintenance responsibilities, and better align capital improvement schedules among state and private stakeholders; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Transportation is requested to coordinate with utility providers operating within state highway rights-of-way to develop a comprehensive statewide plan and schedule to address derelict or aging utility poles and lines along Farrington Highway and other high-risk corridors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is requested to:

- (1) Convene relevant utility providers to conduct a coordinated assessment of derelict, inactive, or aging infrastructure;
- (2) Develop a comprehensive removal, repair, or remediation schedule;
- (3) Prioritize corridors with elevated wildfire risk, high traffic volumes, or proximity to residential communities;
- (4) Establish a standardized notification and coordination process for unsafe or abandoned infrastructure;
- (5) Identify funding responsibilities and cost allocation mechanisms; and
- (6) Evaluate whether existing statutes or franchise agreements sufficiently define maintenance and removal obligations for inactive utility infrastructure within state highway rights-of-way; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
2 Transportation is requested to submit a report detailing  
3 identified infrastructure, remediation schedules, responsible  
4 entities, and any statutory or regulatory barriers, including  
5 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
6 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
7 2027; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
10 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
11 Transportation.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "John H. ...", is written over a horizontal line.