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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO WORK WITH THE  
MAJOR UTILITY INDUSTRIES IN THE STATE TO DEVELOP A  
MECHANISM TO COORDINATE REPAIRS TO DAMAGED UTILITY POLES.

1           WHEREAS, easy access to utilities, including electricity,  
2 cable television, and phone is imperative to daily life; and  
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4           WHEREAS, this access has been accommodated through the  
5 development of an infrastructure that allows for the delivery of  
6 such utilities to many homes and businesses throughout the  
7 State; and  
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9           WHEREAS, Hawaii utilities, including electricity, phone,  
10 and state or city-owned streetlights jointly own approximately  
11 fifty-five thousand utility poles, while Hawaiian Electric has  
12 sole ownership of approximately fifteen thousand utility poles;  
13 and  
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15           WHEREAS, these utility poles are used to deliver  
16 electricity, cable, and phone service to many homes and  
17 businesses; and  
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19           WHEREAS, when utility poles are knocked down as a result of  
20 things such as inclement weather or accidents, utility service  
21 to residents and businesses is disrupted; and  
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23           WHEREAS, the Legislature understands that it is the  
24 Hawaiian Electric Companies' responsibility to replace the  
25 utility pole; and  
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27           WHEREAS, the Legislature further understands that while  
28 electricity is often restored to residents very quickly, it can  
29 take as long as five to six months for other services, including  
30 cable and phone, to be restored; and



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 2 WHEREAS, delay in the restoration of such services can  
 3 result in significant hardship for residents and businesses in  
 4 the State; and

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 6 WHEREAS, in 2004, legislation was passed to establish a  
 7 single call center, administered by the Public Utilities  
 8 Commission, to provide advance warning to excavators of the  
 9 location of underground utilities; and

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 11 WHEREAS, the Public Utilities Commission established an  
 12 advisory committee including government, construction industry,  
 13 and utility representatives to advise the Commission on the  
 14 implementation of the One Call Center; and

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 16 WHEREAS, among other things, the One Call Center has been a  
 17 successful means of coordinating work among utilities in the  
 18 State and demonstrates the benefits of collaboration between the  
 19 Public Utilities Commission and the utilities; now, therefore,

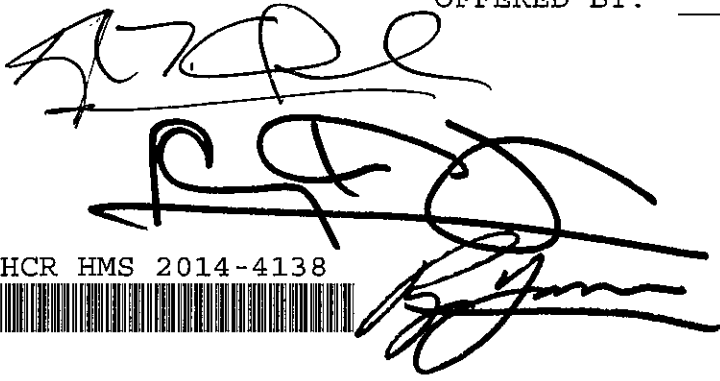
20  
 21 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 22 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 23 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Public  
 24 Utilities Commission is requested to work with the major utility  
 25 industries in the State to develop a mechanism to coordinate  
 26 repairs to damaged utility poles; and

27  
 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission consider, among  
 29 other things, the organization of the One Call Center and its  
 30 advisory board as a potential model; and

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 32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Public  
 34 Utilities Commission.

OFFERED BY:

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 37



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