

2019 -- H 5694

LC000153

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Introduced By: Representatives Solomon, Shanley, Casey, and O'Brien

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: House Corporations

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 39-1 of the General Laws entitled "Public Utilities Commission" is
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **39-1-63. Burying of electric transmission power lines.**

4 (a) Whenever a residential customer of an electric transmission company loses electrical
5 power for a period of ninety-six (96) consecutive hours or more, the electric transmission
6 company shall create and execute a plan to bury the electric transmission lines servicing that
7 residential customer within two (2) years of the loss of electrical power.

8 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply if the loss of electrical power was
9 caused by the action or inaction of the residential customer, or if the electrical power to the
10 residence was terminated by the customer or the electric transmission company.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

1 This act would require an electric utility to bury power lines in the event of a residential
2 power outage lasting ninety-six (96) consecutive hours or more, unless the outage was caused by
3 the resident.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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