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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2020

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A N A C T

RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Introduced By: Representative Joseph J. Solomon

Date Introduced: October 28, 2020

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 company  
6 shall create and execute a plan to bury the electric transmission lines servicing that residential  
7 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 caused  
9 by the action or inaction of the residential customer, or if the electrical power to the residence was  
10 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  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES AND CARRIERS - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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