

House File 2054 - Introduced

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BYRNES

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring approval of the general assembly prior
2 to bifurcating a hearing on a petition for a franchise
3 to construct an electric transmission line or related
4 facilities.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 478.6A Bifurcation — legislative
2 approval.

3 A hearing held in response to a petition shall not be
4 subject to bifurcation such that the issues of whether the
5 proposed line or lines are necessary to serve a public use and
6 the taking of property under the right of eminent domain are
7 considered in one or more separate hearings unless the question
8 of bifurcation has been submitted to and approved by a majority
9 of the members of both houses of the general assembly.

10 EXPLANATION

11 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

13 This bill prohibits bifurcating a hearing in response to a
14 petition for a franchise to construct an electric transmission
15 line or related facilities into separate hearings regarding
16 whether the proposed line or lines are necessary to serve
17 a public use and the taking of property under the right of
18 eminent domain unless the question of bifurcation has been
19 submitted to and approved by a majority of the members of both
20 houses of the general assembly.