House File 2361 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2361
BY ANDREWS

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to procedures to review the Iowa utility
- 2 board's exercise of the power of eminent domain, and
- 3 including effective date and retroactive applicability
- 4 provisions.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 6A.1, Code 2024, is amended to read as 2 follows:
- 6A.1 Exercise of power by state withdrawal by general 4 assembly.
- 5 l. Proceedings may be instituted and maintained by the
- 6 state of Iowa, or for the use and benefit thereof, for the
- 7 condemnation of such private property as may be necessary
- 8 for any public improvement which the general assembly has
- 9 authorized to be undertaken by the state, and for which an
- 10 available appropriation has been made. The executive council
- 11 shall institute and maintain such proceedings in case authority
- 12 to so do be not otherwise delegated.
- 2. a. At any time during an eminent domain proceeding
- 14 initiated by the Iowa utilities board, a greater than
- 15 three-fifths majority of either house of the general assembly
- 16 may vote to withdraw from the proceeding.
- 17 b. Upon a vote under paragraph "a", the chief clerk of
- 18 the house or secretary of the senate, as applicable, shall
- 19 notify the governmental entities and parties involved in the
- 20 proceeding and, following receipt of such notice, all hearings,
- 21 depositions, trials, or similar operations of the proceeding
- 22 must immediately cease.
- 23 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate
- 24 importance, takes effect upon enactment.
- 25 Sec. 3. RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY. This Act applies
- 26 retroactively to eminent domain proceedings initiated by the
- 27 Iowa utilities board on or after January 1, 2024.
- 28 EXPLANATION
- The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.
- 31 This bill allows a greater than three-fifths majority of
- 32 either house of the general assembly to vote to withdraw
- 33 from an eminent domain proceeding instituted by the Iowa
- 34 utilities board (IUB). Upon notice to the involved entities
- 35 and parties, all trials, depositions, hearings, and similar

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- 1 operations of the proceeding must cease. The bill takes effect
- 2 upon enactment and applies retroactively to eminent domain
- 3 proceedings initiated by IUB on or after January 1, 2024.