

HM 1343

2014

House Memorial

1
2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,
3 urging Congress to direct the Secretary of the
4 Department of Homeland Security to request needed
5 resources to protect and recover from the impacts of
6 serious electromagnetic pulse threats and geomagnetic
7 storms.

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9 WHEREAS, geomagnetic storms are natural phenomena involving
10 disturbances in the earth's geomagnetic field caused by solar
11 activity, and

12 WHEREAS, disruptions of electrical power caused by
13 geomagnetic storms, such as the collapse of Quebec Hydro grid
14 during the geomagnetic storm of 1989, have occurred many times
15 in the past, and

16 WHEREAS, the Congressionally mandated Commission to Assess
17 the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse
18 Attack found, in its report delivered July 2004, that an enemy
19 using a low-yield nuclear weapon detonated at a high altitude
20 above the United States could make an electromagnetic pulse
21 attack against the United States, and that an electromagnetic
22 pulse attack has the potential to place our society at risk and
23 to defeat our military forces, and

24 WHEREAS, Congress has commissioned other numerous hearings
25 and reports on this issue, including, the House National

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26 Security Committee hearing on the EMP Threat, 1997; the House
27 Military Research and Development Subcommittee hearing on the
28 threat to the United States of potential EMP attacks, 1999; the
29 creation of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United
30 States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack, 2001; the
31 congressional commission report, "Critical National
32 Infrastructures," 2008; the United State Navy Naval Sea Systems
33 Command EMP program, 2010; the North American Electric
34 Reliability Corporation/Department of Energy report, "High-
35 Impact, Low-Frequency Event Risk to the North American Bulk
36 Power System," 2010; and the Department of Homeland Security
37 testimony to a House Committee on Homeland Security, "The
38 Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Threat: Examining the Consequences,"
39 2012, and

40 WHEREAS, in April 2013, an electrical substation in San
41 Jose, California, was attacked with gunfire, leaving
42 transformers disabled for nearly four weeks in an apparent
43 attempt to disrupt power to Silicon Valley, raising questions
44 about the vulnerability of power grids across the United States,
45 NOW, THEREFORE,

46
47 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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49 That the United States Congress is urged to direct the
50 Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security
51 to request needed resources to:

52 (1) Protect and recover from the impacts of serious
53 electromagnetic pulse threats and geomagnetic storms in the
54 United States; and

55 (2) Assure Congress and the American people that plans,
56 resources, and implementing structures are in place to
57 accomplish these objectives, specifically with respect to the
58 electromagnetic pulse threat and the threat of geomagnetic
59 storms.

60 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
61 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the
62 Secretary of the United States Department of Homeland Security,
63 to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of
64 the United States House of Representatives, and to each member
65 of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.