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2016

## House Memorial

1  
2 A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
3 urging Congress to pass electromagnetic pulse event  
4 legislation, direct the United States Secretary of  
5 Defense to expedite funding and other support for the  
6 newly reestablished Electromagnetic Pulse Commission,  
7 and direct the United States Secretary of Homeland  
8 Security to request resources necessary to protect  
9 against and recover from the impacts of serious  
10 electromagnetic pulse threats, cyberattacks, and  
11 geomagnetic storms in the United States.  
12

13 WHEREAS, the United States relies on electric power to  
14 support a complex network of critical infrastructures that  
15 supply water, food, fuel, communications systems, transport,  
16 financial transactions, and government services, and

17 WHEREAS, natural geomagnetic storms that involve  
18 disturbances in the earth's geomagnetic field caused by solar  
19 activity and manmade electromagnetic pulse (EMP) events have the  
20 ability to disrupt and destroy key critical infrastructure that  
21 is necessary for the seamless functioning of the United States  
22 society and economy, and

23 WHEREAS, disruptions of electrical power caused by  
24 geomagnetic storms, such as the Solar Storm of 1859, also known  
25 as the Carrington Event, the New York Railroad Storm of 1921,  
26 and the collapse of Hydro-Québec's transmission grid during the

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CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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27 | geomagnetic storm of 1989, have occurred many times and will be  
28 | even more devastating as our society increases its reliance on  
29 | technology in our daily lives, and

30 |       WHEREAS, Congress has been aware of and has commissioned  
31 | numerous hearings on high-altitude, nuclear-weapon-generated EMP  
32 | threats for almost 20 years, including hosting the House  
33 | Committee on National Security hearing on the EMP Threat in 1997  
34 | and the House Subcommittee on Military Research and Development  
35 | hearing on the threat to the United States of potential EMP  
36 | attacks in 1999, and

37 |       WHEREAS, in 2001, recognizing the potential threats to the  
38 | United States, Congress passed Public Law No. 106-398 and first  
39 | established the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United  
40 | States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack (EMP Commission), and

41 |       WHEREAS, in 2004 and 2008, the EMP Commission issued  
42 | reports that found that an enemy using a low-yield nuclear  
43 | weapon detonated at a high altitude above the United States  
44 | could produce an EMP attack against the United States that could  
45 | place our society at risk and defeat our military forces, and

46 |       WHEREAS, on the heels of these important reports, Congress  
47 | commissioned additional hearings and reports and created  
48 | programs to address EMPs, including the joint hearing before the  
49 | House Subcommittee on National Security and the House  
50 | Subcommittee on Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies in  
51 | 2005; the congressional commission report, "Critical National  
52 | Infrastructures" in 2008; the United States Navy EMP Program in

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53 2010; the North American Electric Reliability Corporation/United  
54 States Department of Energy report, "High-Impact, Low-Frequency  
55 Event Risk to the North American Bulk Power System" in 2010; and  
56 the United States Department of Homeland Security testimony to  
57 the House Committee on Homeland Security, "The Electromagnetic  
58 Pulse Threat: Examining the Consequences" in 2012, and

59 WHEREAS, in April 2013, North Korea threatened a nuclear  
60 strike on the United States and apparently practiced EMP attacks  
61 with a satellite that overflew Florida and the eastern seaboard  
62 and with a North Korean freighter carrying nuclear-capable  
63 missiles that transited the Gulf of Mexico, and

64 WHEREAS, in April 2013, an electrical substation in San  
65 Jose, California, was attacked with gunfire, leaving  
66 transformers disabled for nearly 4 weeks in an apparent attempt  
67 to disrupt power to Silicon Valley, raising questions about the  
68 vulnerability of electric power grids across the United States  
69 to sabotage, cyberattacks, and EMP attacks, all of which could  
70 be mitigated by EMP protection, and

71 WHEREAS, in October 2013, the Knights Templar drug cartel  
72 blacked out Mexico's Michoacán state, terrorizing 420,000 people  
73 and executing leaders opposed to the drug trade, and

74 WHEREAS, Governor Rick Scott was apprised of the threats  
75 posed by electromagnetic pulses, cyberattacks, and geomagnetic  
76 storms in a letter dated June 3, 2014, signed by experts  
77 including Dr. William R. Graham, former administrator of the  
78 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and chair

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79 of the EMP Commission; R. James Woolsey, Jr., former director of  
80 the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Under Secretary of the  
81 United States Navy; Ambassador Henry F. Cooper, former Director  
82 of the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization; and Vice  
83 Admiral Robert R. Monroe, former Director of the Defense Nuclear  
84 Agency and former Director of Navy Systems Analysis, and  
85 Governor Scott was informed that such threats are critical and  
86 an attack or event of this nature would shake the foundation of  
87 both the nation and the state, making it imperative that the  
88 state and federal governments work together to protect this  
89 country from such threats by protecting the electrical grid and  
90 other critical infrastructure from EMPs, and

91 WHEREAS, in the same month, Al-Qaeda, in the Arabian  
92 Peninsula, blacked out the nation of Yemen, terrorizing 16  
93 cities and 24 million people, which acts of sabotage, if  
94 attempted in the United States, could be mitigated by  
95 preparation for an EMP attack, and

96 WHEREAS, in July 2014, Russia reportedly inserted a cyber-  
97 virus called Dragonfly into 1,000 power plants in Western Europe  
98 and the United States, possibly to cause a future blackout, and

99 WHEREAS, in July 2014, NASA reported that in 2012 a solar  
100 flare narrowly missed the earth that would have caused a  
101 geomagnetic super-storm and natural EMP event with catastrophic  
102 consequences for electric power grids and life-sustaining  
103 critical infrastructures worldwide, and that the probability of  
104 a catastrophic natural EMP event is 12 percent each decade, and

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105 WHEREAS, in September 2014, two strong and unusual solar  
106 storms were widely reported to have caused some disruption, but,  
107 whether by luck or by chance, the flares did not directly hit  
108 the earth, which would have led to the destruction of lives and  
109 property, and

110 WHEREAS, in November 2014, National Security Agency  
111 Director and United States Cyber Command Commander, Admiral  
112 Michael S. Rogers, testified before Congress that China and  
113 other nations could black out the national electrical grid for  
114 18 months with catastrophic consequences for society and the  
115 survival of the American people, and he urged the United States  
116 to protect its electrical grid, and

117 WHEREAS, in January 2015, Pakistan, a nuclear weapons  
118 state, experienced a debilitating temporary blackout nationwide,  
119 reportedly because of terrorist sabotage of its electric grid,  
120 and

121 WHEREAS, in March 2015, Turkey, a North Atlantic Treaty  
122 Organization (NATO) member state, experienced a debilitating  
123 temporary blackout nationwide, reportedly because of an Iranian  
124 cyberattack, and

125 WHEREAS, in April 2015, the Cybersecurity and EMP  
126 Legislative Working Group met in Tallahassee to discuss these  
127 critical issues, which included participation by Ambassador R.  
128 James Woolsey, Jr., former CIA director and Under Secretary of  
129 the United State Navy; Dr. Peter Pry, executive director of the  
130 Task Force on National and Homeland Security; and Dr. Alberto

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131 Ramirez Orquin, advisor on grid security to the United States  
 132 Department of Homeland Security, and

133 WHEREAS, in the hearing before the Senate Committee on  
 134 Homeland Security and Government Affairs in July 2015 and the  
 135 joint hearing before the House Subcommittee on Oversight and  
 136 Investigations, the House Subcommittee on Energy, and the House  
 137 Committee on Science, Space, and Technology in September 2015,  
 138 Ambassador R. James Woolsey, Jr., provided expert testimony  
 139 titled, "Heading Toward an EMP Catastrophe," and

140 WHEREAS, in November 2015, Iran continued to illegally test  
 141 ballistic missiles capable of carrying a nuclear warhead and  
 142 launching an EMP attack, and

143 WHEREAS, in December 2015, a book titled "Blackout Wars" by  
 144 the Task Force on National and Homeland Security was published,  
 145 which documents that Russian, Chinese, and Iranian military  
 146 textbooks all advocate a new way of warfare called a "Revolution  
 147 in Military Affairs" based on attacking electrical grids with  
 148 cyber, sabotage, and EMP, and specifically named the United  
 149 States as a target, further stressing the importance of  
 150 protecting our electric power grid against a nuclear EMP attack,  
 151 NOW, THEREFORE,

152  
 153 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

154  
 155 That the United States Congress is urged to pass the  
 156 Critical Infrastructure Protection Act, filed as H.R. 1073 and

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157 awaiting action before the United States Senate, having passed  
158 the United States House of Representatives by unanimous consent  
159 on November 16, 2015; to direct the United States Secretary of  
160 Defense to expedite funding and any other necessary support to  
161 the EMP Commission that was reestablished on November 25, 2015;  
162 and to direct the United States Secretary of Homeland Security  
163 to request resources necessary to protect against and recover  
164 from the impacts of serious electromagnetic pulse threats,  
165 cyberattacks, and geomagnetic storms in the United States and  
166 ensure that plans, resources, and implementing structures are in  
167 place to accomplish these goals.

168 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
169 dispatched to the President of the United States, to the United  
170 States Secretary of Defense, to the United States Secretary of  
171 Homeland Security, to the President of the United States Senate,  
172 to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,  
173 and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United  
174 States Congress.