

REFERENCE TITLE: electrical grids; security; strengthening

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Introduced by
Senator Rogers

A MEMORIAL

URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO IMPLEMENT LEGISLATION TO STRENGTHEN
THE UNITED STATES AND ARIZONA ELECTRICAL GRIDS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Congress of the United States of America:

2 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

3 Whereas, the United States electrical grid is divided into three
4 parts, all of which are extremely vulnerable to attack by electromagnetic
5 pulse (EMP), hacking, physical assault, severe electrical storms or damage
6 by a natural solar event; and

7 Whereas, a nuclear EMP attack would have devastating consequences to
8 our nation, as congressional studies estimate that such an attack on the
9 Eastern United States power grid would result in a 90% death rate over a
10 one-year period. Further, the United States military is 99% dependent on
11 civilian electricity, and such an attack could severely hinder our
12 nation's defense capabilities; and

13 Whereas, in addition to the threat of enemy attack, the sun has
14 already hit North America twice with devastating electrical force that
15 caused major upheaval in infrastructure elements, in 1859 and again in
16 1989; and

17 Whereas, the next natural solar event or enemy attack on our
18 nation's power grids could potentially disrupt numerous United States
19 industries and services, including the military, banking, farming, fuel
20 delivery, water and sewage services, hospitals, emergency services,
21 communications and manufacturing; and

22 Whereas, none of the United States grids are currently EMP-protected
23 at all, and basic protection has been estimated in a 2004 Congressional
24 Report to cost \$2 billion; and

25 Whereas, protecting our nation's vital infrastructure, including its
26 electrical grids, is a valid function of the United States and state
27 governments that benefits all citizens; and

28 Whereas, China, Russia and Israel have already strengthened their
29 electrical grids to limit damage and to restore power after an attack or
30 natural solar flare; and

31 Whereas, terrorist countries are known to be testing and preparing
32 super-EMP weapons, naming our nation as a target. If an enemy launched an
33 attack from sea or space, the United States would not soon know who
34 attacked us and could not easily retaliate; and

35 Whereas, over the years, Congress and several states have studied
36 these threats, yet to date no legislation has been passed requiring the
37 strengthening of our electrical grids. It is imperative that the current
38 Congress expeditiously enact comprehensive legislation that will protect
39 our nation's vital electrical grids from EMP threats, both natural and
40 man-made.

41 Wherefore your memorialist, the Senate of the State of Arizona, prays:

42 1. That the United States Congress promptly enact comprehensive
43 legislation to strengthen the United States and Arizona electrical grids.

44 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit
45 copies of this Memorial to the President of the United States Senate, the
46 Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and each Member of
47 Congress from the State of Arizona.