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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

No. 213 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY METCALFE, ARMANINI, BERNSTINE, BOBACK, COOK, HAMM,  
HENNESSEY, JAMES, PENNYCUICK, PICKETT, RADER, RAPP AND RYAN,  
JUNE 22, 2022

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES AND ENERGY,  
JUNE 22, 2022

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A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Congress of the United States to fund measures to  
2 protect the power grid of the United States from  
3 electromagnetic pulse attacks and solar flare incidents.

4 WHEREAS, The United States and this Commonwealth depend on  
5 the power grid for virtually all modern life functions and  
6 necessary essential services; and

7 WHEREAS, The power grid in the United States is vulnerable to  
8 electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attacks and solar flare incidents;  
9 and

10 WHEREAS, EMPs, which are a brief burst of electromagnetic  
11 energy, disrupt and damage electronic equipment, including  
12 military and civilian communications, computers, cell phones and  
13 transformers; and

14 WHEREAS, Solar flares can temporarily increase the ionization  
15 of the upper atmosphere, causing interference with shortwave  
16 radio communications, satellites and cellular communications;  
17 and

1       WHEREAS, Adversaries and potential enemies of the United  
2 States have current capabilities to use EMPs as a weapon for  
3 cyber warfare or cyber terrorism to disrupt communications and  
4 other parts of critical infrastructure; and

5       WHEREAS, Equipment and weapons used by the United States  
6 military are vulnerable to the effects of EMPs; and

7       WHEREAS, EMPs can impair the defense capability of the United  
8 States for as much as five years, thus compromising national  
9 security; therefore be it

10       RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the  
11 Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United  
12 States to fund measures to protect the power grid of the United  
13 States from electromagnetic pulse attacks and solar flare  
14 incidents.