

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 265

BY REPRESENTATIVES COATES, AMEDEE, EDMONSTON, GALLE, JACOB
LANDRY, MACK, AND MCCORMICK

ENERGY: Directs the Louisiana Public Service Commission to explore technology, policy,
and cost recovery mechanisms to harden the Louisiana electrical grid against
electromagnetic threats

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To direct the Louisiana Public Service Commission to explore technology, policy, and cost
3 recovery mechanisms to harden the Louisiana electrical grid against electromagnetic
4 threats.

5 WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana is an exceptional asset to the national security of
6 the United States of America; its strategic geographic position, maritime transportation and
7 ports, logistics capacity, economic strength, strategic military and energy installations,
8 abundant energy resources, refining capacity, and strategic storage locations all form a
9 critical foundation for the defense and resilience of the nation; and

10 WHEREAS, Louisiana is home to installations vital to America's national security,
11 including Barksdale Air Force Base, home to the Air Force Global Strike Command, which
12 supports America's strategic nuclear deterrence; the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base
13 New Orleans; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Michoud Assembly
14 Facility, the nation's premiere site for manufacturing and assembly of large-scale space
15 structures; and the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve, all of which are wholly
16 dependent on the Louisiana electric grid; and

17 WHEREAS, the electric grid of Louisiana, integral to every facet of its national
18 security contributions, faces existential threats from electromagnetic spectrum threats,
19 including solar weather, through coronal mass ejections (CME's) that cause geomagnetic
20 disturbances (GMD's); high-altitude electromagnetic pulses (HEMP's) caused by nuclear

1 detonations; and intentional electromagnetic interference (IEMI) attacks, all capable of
2 crippling electric power systems thereby plunging military bases, defense industrial sites,
3 refineries, ports, and Louisiana communities into chaos and jeopardizing the security of the
4 United States; and

5 WHEREAS, the high voltage transformers sustaining the Louisiana electric grid are
6 extremely hard to replace, some with production lead times as long as four to six years, and
7 are critically vulnerable to ground-induced currents (GIC's), which can be generated by a
8 GMD caused by solar weather or HEMP, and these currents can cause catastrophic damage,
9 threatening the operation and even future restoration of Louisiana's electric grid and with it
10 the state's military, energy, and industrial sectors; and

11 WHEREAS, the devastating potential of a major solar storm, evidenced by the 1859
12 Carrington Event, which disabled telegraph systems, and modern simulations projecting
13 trillions in economic losses and prolonged blackouts, demands preemptive action to harden
14 Louisiana's grid against such inevitable and catastrophic risks; and

15 WHEREAS, nations hostile to the United States, namely Russia, China, North Korea,
16 and Iran, as well as terrorist organizations, view the Gulf of America as a strategic launch
17 point for an EMP attack to cripple the United States, exploiting its proximity to critical
18 energy infrastructure, military bases, and population centers along Louisiana's gulf coast,
19 with military doctrines explicitly incorporating EMP strikes as a means to neutralize United
20 States power projection; and

21 WHEREAS, the United States Senate Committee on Homeland Security and
22 Governmental Affairs of the One Hundred Fifteenth Congress Report 115-12, dated March
23 28, 2017, states, "A successful nuclear electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack against the
24 United States could cause the death of approximately ninety percent of the American
25 population. Similarly, a geomagnetic disturbance (GMD) could have equally devastating
26 effects on the power grid," implicating America's electric grid as a critical point of
27 vulnerability; and

28 WHEREAS, despite presidential executive orders by both democrat and republican
29 administrations directing the federal government to mitigate hazards associated with solar

1 weather and EMP, and despite the existence of tested grid hardening solutions, the Louisiana
2 electric grid remains critically vulnerable to these threats.

3 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives of the
4 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby direct the Louisiana Public Service Commission, with
5 the full weight of this Resolution and in alignment with presidential executive orders and
6 federal mandates, congressional findings, and expert recommendations, to explore
7 immediate and comprehensive technological measures, policy mandates, and cost recovery
8 mechanisms to harden the Louisiana electric grid against electromagnetic spectrum threats.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Louisiana's indispensable role in the national
10 security of the United States is hereby affirmed and its electric grid is declared a critical
11 asset of the highest order, whose protection against electromagnetic spectrum threats such
12 as solar weather, nuclear EMP, and IEMI, is nonnegotiable and urgent to prevent the
13 catastrophic loss of life detailed in congressional and expert reports.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the protection of Louisiana's electric grid
15 against electromagnetic threats requires significant investments from the state and federal
16 government and as such the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana invites
17 the unwavering commitment of the Louisiana Public Service Commission, the governor of
18 Louisiana, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Department of Energy, and the
19 Nuclear Regulatory Commission to this cause as the security of Louisiana and the United
20 States and the lives of millions hang in the balance.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
22 chairman of the Louisiana Public Service Commission, the governor of Louisiana, the
23 Louisiana congressional delegation, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the
24 Department of Energy, and the chairman of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]
