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(Original Signature of Member)

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES.

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to planning for a nuclear or natural electromagnetic pulse event in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. BARTLETT submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to planning for a nuclear or natural electromagnetic pulse event in the United States.

Whereas the threat to the United States from a nuclear or natural electromagnetic pulse (hereinafter referred to as “EMP”) event could destroy civilian critical infrastructures, including electric power, transportation, communications, banking and finance, food and water, that are vital to modern civilization and the survival of the people of the United States;

Whereas preparedness for survival and recovery from EMP is a national and homeland security high priority;

Whereas several congressional commissions and official Government entities, including the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack, the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States, and independent studies by the National Academy of Sciences, the Department of Energy, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, have warned that terrorists or rogue states, armed with a single short-range ballistic missile and nuclear warheads, could make an EMP attack on the United States by launching from a ship and inflict catastrophic damage on the civilian critical infrastructures;

Whereas studies conducted by such commissions and entities have also warned that the sun can cause an EMP event by generating a great geomagnetic storm that would have catastrophic consequences similar to a nuclear EMP attack, and that a great geomagnetic storm, though rare, is inevitable and could occur at any time, perhaps soon, and perhaps during the solar maximum that recurs every 11 years and will next occur in 2012 or 2013;

Whereas given the current unpreparedness and vulnerability of the critical infrastructures of the United States to EMP, the EMP Commission estimated that 12 months after a nuclear or natural EMP event, two-thirds of the people of the United States would perish from starvation, disease, or societal collapse;

Whereas the EMP Commission made recommendations, which have been endorsed by subsequent official independent studies, for implementing cost-effective and timely survival and recovery of civilian critical infrastructures that would greatly mitigate, if not eliminate, the nuclear

and natural EMP threat to the people of the United States; and

Whereas the EMP Commission plan for protecting the critical infrastructures of the United States was not designed for EMP alone but all hazards, and so would also mitigate threats to the infrastructures from cyber attack, sabotage, and natural disasters: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that—

3 (1) the President should immediately sign the
4 Executive Order On EMP Protection, drafted by the
5 EMP Commission;

6 (2) the Secretary of Homeland Security should
7 immediately add nuclear and natural EMP to its
8 baseline scenarios for purposes of training and plan-
9 ning national emergency preparedness at Federal,
10 State, and local levels;

11 (3) the Secretary of Homeland Security should
12 begin implementing the recommendations of the
13 EMP Commission to protect and recover the civilian
14 critical infrastructures;

15 (4) the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary
16 of Homeland Security, should jointly begin making
17 contingency plans to use Department of Defense as-
18 sets to aid in the survival and recovery of civilian
19 critical infrastructures and the lives of the people of
20 the United States;

1 (5) the Secretary of Defense should direct the
2 commanders of military bases in the contiguous
3 United States to immediately begin joint planning
4 and training with State and local authorities, State
5 national guard, police, fire, and other emergency
6 services; and

7 (6) the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary
8 of Homeland should jointly plan for a scenario in
9 which commanders of military bases located in the
10 contiguous United States and State and local emer-
11 gency responders have no communications with na-
12 tional or State authorities and must be prepared to
13 work together on their own authority locally, using
14 only local resources.