

Subtitle F—Other Matters SEC. 1691. COMMISSION TO
ASSESS THE THREAT TO THE UNITED STATES FROM
ELECTROMAGNETIC
PULSE ATTACKS AND SIMILAR EVENTS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a commission to be known as the “Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attacks and Similar Events” (hereafter in this section referred to as the “Commission”). The purpose of the Commission is to assess and make recommendations with respect to the threat to the United States from electromagnetic pulse attacks and similar events.

(b) COMPOSITION.— (1) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be

composed of 12 members appointed as follows: (A) Three members appointed by the chair of the Committee on Armed Services of the

House of Representatives. (B) Three members appointed by the rank-

ing minority member of the Committee on

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. 1 Armed Services of the House of Representa-
. 2 tives.

. 3 (C) Three members appointed by the chair
. 4 of the Committee on Armed Services of the
. 5 Senate.

. 6 (D) Three members appointed by the rank-
. 7 ing minority member of the Committee on
. 8 Armed Services of the Senate.

. 9 (2) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—

. 10 (A) CHAIR.—The chair of the Committee
. 11 on Armed Services of the House of Representa-
. 12 tives and the chair of the Committee on Armed
. 13 Services of the Senate shall jointly designate
. 14 one member of the Commission to serve as
. 15 chair of the Commission.

. 16 (B) VICE CHAIR.—The ranking minority
. 17 member of the Committee on Armed Services of
. 18 the House of Representatives and the ranking
. 19 minority member of the Committee on Armed

. 20 Services of the Senate shall jointly designate
. 21 one member of the Commission to serve as vice
. 22 chair of the Commission.
. 23 (3) SECURITY CLEARANCE REQUIRED.—Each
. 24 individual appointed as a member of the Commission
. 25 shall possess (or have recently possessed before the

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. 1 date of such appointment) the appropriate security
. 2 clearance necessary to carry out the duties of the
. 3 Commission.
. 4 (4) QUALIFICATION.—Members of the Commis-
. 5 sion shall be appointed from among private United
. 6 States citizens with knowledge and expertise in the
. 7 scientific, technical, and defense aspects of electro-
. 8 magnetic pulse threats, geomagnetic disturbances,
. 9 and related vulnerabilities.

. 10 (5) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

. 11 Members shall be appointed for the life of the Com-

. 12 mission. Any vacancy in the Commission shall be

. 13 filled in the same manner as the original appoint-

. 14 ment.

. 15 (c) DUTIES.—

16 17 sion 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

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(1) REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT.—The Commis- shall review and assess—

(A) the nature, magnitude, and likelihood of potential electromagnetic pulse (hereafter in section referred to as “EMP”) attacks and similar events, including geomagnetic disturbances, both manmade and natural, that could be directed at or affect the United States within the next 20 years;

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. 1 (B) the vulnerability of United States mili-

. 2 tary and civilian systems to EMP attacks and
. 3 similar events, including with respect to emer-
. 4 gency preparedness and immediate response;
. 5 (C) the capability of the United States to
. 6 repair and recover from damage inflicted on
. 7 United States military and civilian systems by
. 8 EMP attacks and similar events; and
. 9 (D) the feasibility and cost of hardening
. 10 critical military and civilian systems against
. 11 EMP attack and similar events.

. 12 (2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Commission
. 13 shall recommend any actions it believes should be
. 14 taken by the United States to better prepare, pre-
. 15 vent, mitigate, or recover military and civilian sys-
. 16 tems with respect to EMP attacks and similar
. 17 events.

. 18 (d) COOPERATION FROM GOVERNMENT.—

. 19 (1) COOPERATION.—In carrying out its duties,
. 20 the Commission shall receive the full and timely co-

. 21 operation of the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary
. 22 of Energy, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and
. 23 the pertinent heads of any other Federal agency in
. 24 providing the Commission with analysis, briefings,

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. 1 and other information necessary for the fulfillment
. 2 of its responsibilities.

. 3 (2) LIAISON.—Each Secretary specified in
. 4 paragraph (1) shall designate at least one officer or
. 5 employee of the respective department of the Sec-
. 6 retary to serve as a liaison officer between the De-
. 7 partment and the Commission.

. 8 (e) REPORT.—

. 9 (1) FINAL REPORT.—

. 10 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1,
. 11 2019, the Commission shall submit to the

. 12 President, the Secretary of Defense, the Com-
. 13 mittee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
. 14 resentatives, and the Committee on Armed
. 15 Services of the Senate a report on the findings,
. 16 conclusions, and recommendations of the Com-
. 17 mission.

. 18 (B) FORM OF REPORT.—The report sub-
. 19 mitted to Congress under subparagraph (A)
. 20 shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may
. 21 include a classified annex.

. 22 (2) VIEWS OF THE SECRETARY.—Not later
. 23 than 90 days after the submittal of the report under
. 24 paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall submit
. 25 to the Committee on Armed Services of the House

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. 1 of Representatives and the Committee on Armed

. 2 Services of the Senate a report that contains the
. 3 views of the Secretary with respect to the findings,
. 4 conclusions, and recommendations of the Commis-
. 5 sion and any actions the Secretary intends to take
. 6 as a result.

. 7 (3) INTERIM BRIEFING.—Not later than Octo-
. 8 ber 1, 2018, the Commission shall provide to the
. 9 Committee on Armed Services of the House of Rep-
. 10 resentatives and the Committee on Armed Services
. 11 of the Senate a briefing on the status of the activi-
. 12 ties of the Commission, including a discussion of any
. 13 interim recommendations.

. 14 (f) FUNDING.—Of the amounts authorized to be ap-
. 15 propriated by this Act for the Department of Defense,
. 16 \$3,000,000 is available to fund the activities of the Com-
. 17 mission, as specified in the funding tables in division D.

. 18 (g) APPLICATION OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COM-
. 19 MITTEE ACT.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5

- . 20 U.S.C. App.) shall apply to the Commission.
- . 21 (h) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate
- . 22 on October 1, 2019.
- . 23 (i) REPEAL.—Title XIV of Floyd D. Spence National
- . 24 Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 (Public
- . 25 Law 106–398) is repealed.