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 ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services of the
1 Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

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

6 (D) Three members appointed by the ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate.

9 (2) CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR.—

10 (A) CHAIR.—The chair of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the chair of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate shall jointly designate one member of the Commission to serve as chair of the Commission.

16 (B) VICE CHAIR.—The ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the ranking minority member of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate shall jointly designate one member of the Commission to serve as chair of the Commission.
Services of the Senate shall jointly designate one member of the Commission to serve as vice chair of the Commission.

(3) SECURITY CLEARANCE REQUIRED.—Each individual appointed as a member of the Commission shall possess (or have recently possessed before the date of such appointment) the appropriate security clearance necessary to carry out the duties of the Commission.

(4) QUALIFICATION.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed from among private United States citizens with knowledge and expertise in the scientific, technical, and defense aspects of electromagnetic pulse threats, geomagnetic disturbances, and related vulnerabilities.
10 (5) Period of Appointment; Vacancies.—

11 Members shall be appointed for the life of the Commission. Any vacancy in the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

15 (c) Duties.—

16 (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;
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-
operation of the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the pertinent heads of any other Federal agency in providing the Commission with analysis, briefings, and other information necessary for the fulfillment of its responsibilities.

(2) LIAISON.—Each Secretary specified in paragraph (1) shall designate at least one officer or employee of the respective department of the Secretary to serve as a liaison officer between the Department and the Commission.

(e) REPORT.—

(1) FINAL REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than April 1, 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
Services of the Senate a report that contains the views of the Secretary with respect to the findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the Commission and any actions the Secretary intends to take as a result.

(3) INTERIM BRIEFING.—Not later than October 1, 2018, the Commission shall provide to the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate a briefing on the status of the activities of the Commission, including a discussion of any interim recommendations.

(f) FUNDING.—Of the amounts authorized to be appropriated by this Act for the Department of Defense, $3,000,000 is available to fund the activities of the Commission, as specified in the funding tables in division D.

(g) APPLICATION OF FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE 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.