

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2962

To provide for independent research of the future resilience and reliability of the Nation's electric power transmission and distribution system, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 2013

Mr. PAYNE (for himself, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. CARTWRIGHT, Mr. KEATING, Mr. LANCE, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. DEFazio, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. RICHMOND, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. SIREs, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. RANGEL, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Ms. GABBARD, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. PETERS of California, and Mr. O'ROURKE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To provide for independent research of the future resilience and reliability of the Nation's electric power transmission and distribution system, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Saving More American
5 Resources Today Grid Study Act of 2013" or the
6 "SMART Grid Study Act of 2013".

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL STUDY ON THE RE-**
2 **SILIENCE AND RELIABILITY OF THE NA-**
3 **TION'S POWER GRID.**

4 (a) INDEPENDENT STUDY.—Not later than 60 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
6 of Homeland Security, and the heads of other departments
7 and agencies, as necessary, shall enter into an agreement
8 with the National Research Council to conduct research
9 of the future resilience and reliability of the Nation's elec-
10 tric power transmission and distribution system. The re-
11 search under this subsection shall be known as the “Sav-
12 ing More American Resources Today Study” or the
13 “SMART Study”. In conducting such research, the Na-
14 tional Research Council shall—

15 (1) research the options for improving the Na-
16 tion's ability to expand and strengthen the capabili-
17 ties of the Nation's power grid, including estimation
18 of the cost, time scale for implementation, and iden-
19 tification of the scale and scope of any potential sig-
20 nificant health and environmental impacts;

21 (2) consider the forces affecting the grid, in-
22 cluding technical, economic, regulatory, environ-
23 mental, and geopolitical factors, and how such forces
24 are likely to affect—

25 (A) the efficiency, control, reliability and
26 robustness of operation;

1 (B) the ability of the grid to recover from
2 disruptions, including natural disasters and ter-
3 rorist attacks;

4 (C) the ability of the grid to incorporate
5 greater reliance on distributed and intermittent
6 power generation and electricity storage;

7 (D) the ability of the grid to adapt to
8 changing patterns of demand for electricity; and

9 (E) the economic and regulatory factors
10 affecting the evolution of the grid;

11 (3) review Federal, State, industry, and aca-
12 demic research and development programs and iden-
13 tify technological options that could improve the fu-
14 ture grid;

15 (4) review the implications of increased reliance
16 on digital information and control of the power grid
17 for improving reliability, resilience, and congestion
18 and for potentially increasing vulnerability to cyber
19 attack;

20 (5) review regulatory, industry, and institu-
21 tional factors and programs affecting the future of
22 the grid;

23 (6) research the costs and benefits, as well as
24 the strengths and weaknesses, of the options identi-
25 fied under paragraph (1) to address the emerging

1 forces described in paragraph (2) that are shaping
2 the grid;

3 (7) identify the barriers to realizing the options
4 identified and suggest strategies for overcoming
5 those barriers including suggested actions, priorities,
6 incentives, and possible legislative and executive ac-
7 tions; and

8 (8) research the ability of the grid to integrate
9 existing and future infrastructure, including utilities,
10 telecommunications lines, highways, and other crit-
11 ical infrastructure.

12 (b) COOPERATION AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION
13 AND PERSONNEL.—The Secretary shall ensure that the
14 National Research Council receives full and timely co-
15 operation, including full access to information and per-
16 sonnel, from the Department of Homeland Security, the
17 Department of Energy, including the management and op-
18 erating components of the Departments, and other Fed-
19 eral departments and agencies, as necessary, for the pur-
20 poses of conducting the study described in subsection (a).

21 (c) REPORT.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months
23 from the date on which the Secretary enters into the
24 agreement with the National Research Council de-
25 scribed in subsection (a), the National Research

1 Council shall submit to the Secretary and the Com-
2 mittee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-
3 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Secu-
4 rity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report
5 containing the findings of the research required by
6 that subsection.

7 (2) FORM OF REPORT.—The report under para-
8 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
9 but may include a classified annex.

10 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
11 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Home-
12 land Security \$2,100,000 to carry out this section.

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