

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 58th Legislature (2022)

HOUSE CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION 1017

By: McBride and O'Donnell of
the House

and

David of the Senate

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution declaring the need for grid modernization technologies and cybersecurity; providing certain background information; urging federal and state policymakers to modernize the electric grid and protect energy resources from cyberattacks; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the United States' and Oklahoma's economic and national and state security depend on reliable energy sources and infrastructure including the electric power grid, oil and gas supply chain, and all renewable sources of energy production. To remain reliable, these sources must be resilient to potential interruptions, and, with the interconnected nature of our world, especially to cyber threats; and

WHEREAS, electricity moves from power plants through the largest machine in the world known as a "grid" consisting of a very complex and highly interconnected system of substations, transformers, and

1 power lines to serve consumers. Most local grids are interconnected
2 to create more "fault-tolerant" networks of electricity supply.
3 These power grids are being pushed to do more than they were
4 designed to do to respond to weather events and an ever-growing,
5 changing, and complex set of customer demands. For example, the
6 North American Electric Reliability Corporation assessed that
7 several regions in North America were at risk of electricity
8 shortfalls in the summer of 2021 due to above-normal peak
9 temperatures. In 2021, severe winter weather in Oklahoma and
10 surrounding states caused energy consumption to exceed capacity and
11 available fuel supplies resulting in costs to consumers of millions
12 of dollars. At the same time, policies are being adopted to
13 encourage carbon-free, non-24-7 sources of power for buildings and
14 transportation; and

15 WHEREAS, the impact a cyberattack can have on our country was
16 demonstrated in May 2021 when Colonial Pipeline halted operations to
17 contain the effects of a cyberattack. That disruption resulted in
18 an increase in the average U.S. retail price for regular grade
19 gasoline to over \$3.00 per gallon for the first time since October
20 27, 2014; and

21 WHEREAS, these attacks are not new, novel, or unique to the
22 pipeline industry, nor are they confined to the United States. In
23 2015, three Ukrainian electricity distribution companies faced
24 cyberattacks that resulted in outages for 225,000 customers for

1 several hours, not to mention what is currently going on in Ukraine.
2 The threat of cyberattacks has been known for years, but as a nation
3 we struggle to develop a unified approach to defend both public and
4 private critical infrastructure. Oklahoma is a central access point
5 for much of the nation's oil and gas storage and delivery.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
7 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 58TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
8 CONCURRING THEREIN:

9 THAT the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the Oklahoma
10 State Senate urge federal and state policymakers to work with
11 private and public energy companies and telecommunication providers,
12 as well as existing regulatory bodies such as the North American
13 Electric Reliability Corporation, the Federal Energy Regulatory
14 Commission, and state commissions, to develop policies and
15 requirements and to develop and deploy interoperable technologies
16 and infrastructure to both further modernize and increase the
17 resilience of the electric grid across the United States.
18 Additionally, and as a matter critical to our national and state
19 security, the federal and state governments must rapidly develop a
20 framework to protect the electric grid, the electric supply chain,
21 and the oil and gas supply chain from cyberattacks in a manner that
22 protects reliability, resiliency, and maintains customer
23 affordability.

1 THAT enrolled copies of this resolution be furnished to the
2 President of the United States of America, the Secretary of the U.S.
3 Department of Energy, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of
4 Homeland Security, the Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory
5 Commission, and the Oklahoma congressional delegation.

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