



HR0651

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1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, A secure, reliable, and resilient power grid  
3 integrating generation resources serves as a foundation of a  
4 growing economy and is critical to national security; and

5 WHEREAS, Regulators, policymakers, and consumers expect  
6 generating resources and the grid to perform extremely  
7 reliably; and

8 WHEREAS, A significant portion of the nation's  
9 transmission facilities is aged and urgently requires  
10 replacement and substantial upgrading; and

11 WHEREAS, Environmental regulations, state renewable and  
12 clean energy portfolio standards with mandated deadlines,  
13 state and federal tax policies, other economic factors, and  
14 technology developments are causing some electric generation  
15 resources to retire, while substantial replacement generation,  
16 some of it fueled by intermittent resources, is being or is  
17 planned to be sited at other locations on the electric grid;  
18 and

19 WHEREAS, The risk of natural disasters threatens the  
20 network of power transmission and distribution lines, and  
21 strengthening the nation's grid with advanced technology can

1 increase the grid's resiliency and reliability; and

2 WHEREAS, New innovative, cost-effective transmission  
3 technologies, including, but not limited to, high-capacity and  
4 high-efficiency conductors and compact transmission towers,  
5 are commercially available with revolutionary, extraordinarily  
6 high-performance levels compared to other technologies to  
7 address aged circuit and new generation issues, including much  
8 greater increases in grid capacity, much greater improvements  
9 in energy transfers, significantly greater stability and  
10 resiliency, much greater efficient use of existing and new  
11 rights-of-way, substantial reduction in transmission line  
12 losses, streamlining siting and construction activities, and  
13 more rapidly bringing new and replacement circuits into  
14 service; and

15 WHEREAS, New and advanced replacement transmission  
16 facilities can be designed and deployed to enable a wide  
17 variety of new generating resources and can address technical,  
18 environmental, and aesthetic issues that could impede or limit  
19 the development and operation of resources so states can  
20 achieve public policy goals on set schedules; and

21 WHEREAS, Crowded utility corridors often allow little room  
22 for expansion; and

1           WHEREAS, Some states have established minimal requirements  
2           for approving transmission projects that use existing  
3           corridors with de minimis impacts; and

4           WHEREAS, At least one state has established a policy that  
5           encourages regulators and grid operators to support and  
6           encourage consideration of advanced transmission line  
7           technologies to cost-effectively deliver benefits; and

8           WHEREAS, Substantial benefits will flow from advanced  
9           technologies on a cost-per-energy-unit-delivered or other  
10          basis, so state legislators, electric utilities, grid  
11          operators, and state public service commissions are encouraged  
12          to optimize investment decisions around the cost-effective use  
13          of technologies to yield extraordinarily high performance from  
14          them; therefore, be it

15          RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
16          HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
17          encourage the State of Illinois to support the following:

18                 (1) the investigation and consideration of new  
19                 advanced transmission technologies that offer  
20                 revolutionary performance benefits when replacing aged  
21                 transmission infrastructure;

22                 (2) the evaluation of new advanced transmission  
23                 technologies to determine whether they are best able to

1 cost-effectively ensure the continued reliable delivery of  
2 electricity while providing revolutionary greater capacity  
3 and revolutionary enhanced efficiency on schedules  
4 required to meet the state's public policy objectives;

5 (3) the consideration of the ability of these  
6 technologies to greatly reduce environmental and visual  
7 impacts to communities; and

8 (4) the consideration of the ability of these and other  
9 technologies to greatly reduce the overall cost of energy  
10 delivery; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That we encourage efforts to work with regional  
12 transmission organizations, independent system operators, and  
13 other planning authorities to compare the cost-effective,  
14 revolutionary performance of advanced electric transmission  
15 infrastructure options to the performance of other  
16 technologies for increasing grid capacity, reducing  
17 transmission line losses, improving energy transfers, making  
18 more efficient use of rights-of-way, improving energy  
19 efficiency, and encouraging the shortest timeframes be put in  
20 service by streamlining siting and construction activities in  
21 their planning, evaluation, and oversight of transmission grid  
22 development, especially by utilizing existing transmission  
23 corridors; and be it further

24 RESOLVED, That we encourage the inclusion of supplemental

1 or new policies of transmission facilities that promote  
2 revolutionary, rather than incremental, performance and the  
3 benefits of the appropriate use of cost-effective advanced  
4 electric transmission technologies in support of their  
5 interest in the continued, timely provision of affordable,  
6 reliable electricity to consumers; and be it further

7       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 delivered to Governor Rauner, all members of the Illinois  
9 Commerce Commission, all members of the Illinois Congressional  
10 Delegation, Exelon, Dynegy, ComEd, Ameren, Mid-American  
11 Energy, Illinois Electrical Cooperatives, the Electric Power  
12 Research Institute, National Labs (Department of Energy), and  
13 the IEE.