SB-14

Securing the United States' Electric Grid from unforeseen environmental threats or potential cyber-attacks and expanding the means of nuclear energy production.

IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. El Yaddasse of Washington introduced the following bill;

A BILL

Securing the United States' Electric Grid from unforeseen environmental threats or potential cyber-attacks and expanding the means of nuclear energy production.

Be it enacted by The American Legion Boys Nation Senate assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "The Energy Protection and Nuclear Diversification Act".

SECTION 2. EXPANDING APPROPRIATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S (DOE) OFFICE OF CYBERSECURITY, ENERGY SECURITY, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE (CESER).

Hereby appropriating the amount of $125 million, out of any money in the treasury otherwise not appropriated, to the DOE's Office of CESER for the following purposes:

(1) Establishment of a joint investigation committee with the DOE's Office of Manufacturing and Energy Supply Chains and Grid Deployment to evaluate and present a report on the extent to which

cyber and environmental vulnerabilities threaten existing grid distribution systems by no later than December 31st, 2028;

(2) Institution of a cooperative research and development coalition with private actors dedicated to the reevaluation of technologies found to be vulnerable in the aforementioned report;

(3) Formation of a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) advisory committee composed of DOE-nominated representatives to ensure that cybersecurity standards fully address leading federal guidance and are upheld without exemption;

(4) Development of a national strategy for grid resilience that includes measures to improve response and recovery capabilities and enhance coordination among federal, state, and local authorities.

SECTION 3. EXPANDING APPROPRIATIONS TO THE DOE'S OFFICES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY (NE) AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (EM).

Hereby appropriating the amount of $55 million, out of any money in the treasury otherwise not appropriated, to the described DOE offices for the following purposes:

(1) Prioritization of research and development activities focused on advanced nuclear technologies, including small modular reactors, advanced fuel cycles, and advanced materials.

(2) Establishment of a competitive grant program to support the design, licensing, and construction of advanced nuclear reactors, with a focus on safety, cost-effectiveness, and waste management.

SECTION 4. REVISION OF EXISTING NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION (NRC) PROCESSES.

Henceforth instituting the following:

(1) The NRC shall streamline and expedite the licensing process for advanced nuclear technologies, ensuring that safety and security considerations are adequately addressed while avoiding unnecessary delays.

(2) The NRC shall establish a framework for risk-informed and performance-based regulation of nuclear energy facilities, taking into account the advancements in technology and safety practices. This approach will facilitate innovation and enhance regulatory efficiency without compromising safety standards.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This act shall take effect 90 days after its enactment into law.

SECTION 6. TERMINATION.

Appropriations and funds made available and authority granted as a result of this act shall remain thus until whichever of the following occurs:

(1) The enactment into law of an appropriation (including continuing appropriation) for any purpose for which amounts are made available in sections 2 and 3;

(2) 10 years elapse in its entirety.