

1       HR98  
2       182585-1  
3       By Representative Shedd  
4       RFD: Rules  
5       First Read: 02-MAR-17

8 SUPPORTING THE DEPLOYMENT OF ADVANCED, INNOVATIVE  
9 ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION TECHNOLOGY.  
10

11 WHEREAS, a secure, reliable, and resilient power  
12 grid integrating generation resources serves as a foundation  
13 of a growing economy and is critical to our national security;  
14 and

15 WHEREAS, regulators, policy-makers, and consumers  
16 expect generating resources and the grid to perform extremely  
17 reliably; and

18 WHEREAS, a significant portion of the nation's  
19 transmission facilities are aged and will require a  
20 replacement strategy; and

21 WHEREAS, environmental regulations, state renewable  
22 energy portfolio standards, state and federal tax policies,  
23 other economic factors, and technology developments are  
24 causing some electric generation resources to retire, while  
25 replacement generation, some fueled by intermittent resources,  
26 is being sited at other locations on the electric grid; and

1           WHEREAS, new innovative cost-effective transmission  
2 technologies, including, but not limited to, high  
3 capacity/high efficiency conductors and compact transmission  
4 towers are commercially available that can increase grid  
5 capacity, improve energy transfers, promote greater stability  
6 and resiliency, make more efficient use of rights-of-way,  
7 reduce transmission line losses, and help to streamline siting  
8 and construction activities; and

9           WHEREAS, new and advanced replacement transmission  
10 facilities can be designed to enable a wide variety of new  
11 generating resources and can address technical, environmental,  
12 and aesthetic issues that might impede or limit the  
13 development and operation of these resources; and

14           WHEREAS, crowded utility corridors often allow  
15 little room for expansion; and

16           WHEREAS, the Joint Committee on Energy of the state  
17 of Arkansas adopted Interim Resolution 2015-004 establishing a  
18 policy that encourages utility project developers to  
19 incorporate advanced transmission line technologies in  
20 projects and for regulators and grid operators to compare  
21 their cost effectiveness to conventional technologies in  
22 projects when they are proposed in projects; and

23           WHEREAS, the policies of the National Association of  
24 Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the Southern Legislative  
25 Conference representing 15 states, and the Midwest Legislative  
26 Conference representing 11 states and four Canadian provinces  
27 recognize the benefits of these technologies to modernize the

1 grid and improve generating resource integration and encourage  
2 electric utilities, grid operators, and state public service  
3 commissions to consider the cost-effective use of these  
4 technologies; now therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF  
6 THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, That this body supports utility  
7 efforts to investigate and consider new advanced transmission  
8 technologies when replacing aged transmission infrastructure,  
9 evaluate new transmission technologies to determine whether  
10 they can cost effectively ensure the continued reliable  
11 delivery of electricity while providing greater capacity and  
12 enhanced efficiency, consider the ability of these  
13 technologies to reduce environmental and visual impacts to  
14 communities, and consider the ability of these and other  
15 technologies to reduce the overall cost of energy delivery.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this body supports and  
17 encourages consideration of these cost-effective advanced  
18 electric transmission infrastructure options that can increase  
19 grid capacity, reduce transmission line losses, improve energy  
20 transfers, make efficient use of rights-of-way, improve energy  
21 efficiency and help to streamline siting and construction  
22 activities in their planning, evaluation, and oversight of  
23 transmission grid development, especially by utilizing  
24 existing transmission corridors.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this  
26 resolution be forwarded to Governor Robert Bentley, Lieutenant  
27 Governor Kay Ivey, the Alabama Public Service Commission, and

1       the Energy Division of the Alabama Department of Economic and  
2       Community Affairs and ADECA Director Jim Byard so that they  
3       may know of our deep concerns regarding these matters.