

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.