

**HJR**

**40**

# ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

**Co-Chair:**  
Joint Armed Services Committee

**Vice-Chair:**  
Legislative Council

**Member:**  
Dilettary Committee  
Oil and Gas Committee  
Military and Veterans Affairs Committee  
Community and Regional Affairs Committee



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## REPRESENTATIVE NANCY DAHLSTROM

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### HJR40 Sponsor Statement

In 1997, Alaska's Legislature was the first of many states to petition the government of the United States to take action to develop and deploy a robust and layered missile defense system, including the most effective combination of land-, sea-, air-, and space-based architectures.

The Congressionally mandated Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack found, in its report delivered July 2004, that an EMP attack could be made by a rogue state against the United States using a low yield nuclear weapon detonated at a high altitude above the United States, and delivered by even a "relatively unsophisticated" short or medium range ballistic missile, and that such an EMP attack "has the potential to hold our society at risk and might result in the defeat of our military forces." Coastal states are perhaps more vulnerable to a missile launched from a container ship offshore. In such a scenario, the national origin of the attack might remain unknown.

This past June, the Alaska Legislature's Joint Armed Services Committee received a briefing from Commissioner Henry Kluepfel and Director Michael Frankel of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack regarding America's critical infrastructure vulnerabilities. Commissioner Kluepfel and Director Frankel also briefed members of the Adjutant Generals Association of the United States who were meeting in Anchorage at the same time.

On the basis of these and other briefings, Alaska's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (in DMVA) has announced it will include EMP attack in its preparedness planning as this threat intersects with the full range of risks, threats and hazards confronting the state.

Maryland has pending legislation in its House and Senate to establish a task force to assess critical infrastructure vulnerabilities against broad scale attack such as electromagnetic pulse. The report of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack urged state authorities and private-sector organizations to work with the Department of Homeland Security to develop draft protocols for implementation by emergency and other government responders following an EMP attack.

# FISCAL NOTE

**STATE OF ALASKA**  
**2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Fiscal Note Number: 1  
 Bill Version: HJR 40  
 (H) Publish Date: 4/1/08

Identifier (file name): \_\_\_\_\_ Dept. Affected: MVA  
 Title: Relating to defending the state from electromagnetic impulses RDU \_\_\_\_\_  
 Component \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sponsor: House Rules  
 Requester: Joint Legislative Armed Services Committee Component Number \_\_\_\_\_

**Expenditures/Revenues** (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

	Appropriation Required	Information						
		FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014
<b>OPERATING EXPENDITURES</b>								
Personal Services								
Travel								
Contractual								
Supplies								
Equipment								
Land & Structures								
Grants & Claims								
Miscellaneous								
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURES</b>								
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<b>CHANGE IN REVENUES ( )</b>								
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**FUND SOURCE** (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts								
1003 GF Match								
1004 GF								
1005 GF/Program Receipts								
1037 GF/Mental Health								
Other Interagency Receipts								
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>

Estimate of any current year (FY2008) cost: 0.0

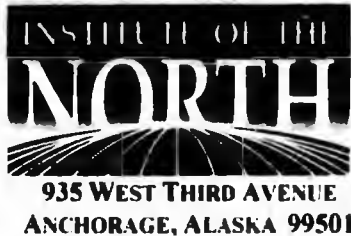
**POSITIONS**

Full-time								
Part-time								
Temporary								

**ANALYSIS:** (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: Rachelle Fenderson, House Rules Assistant  
 Division: House Rules Committee  
 Approved by: Representative John Coghill, Chairman  
House Rules Committee

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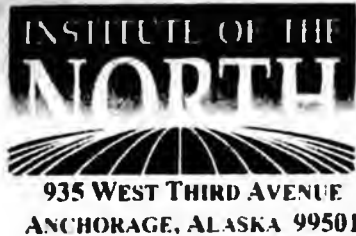
**WALTER J. HICKEL**  
FOUNDER  
**BEN ELLIS**  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

**ARCTIC ENERGY SUMMIT**  
SECRETARIAT

March 25, 2008

**FACT SHEET: Proposed resolution relating to the defense of Alaska against electromagnetic pulse (EMP) attack**

- In 1997, Alaska's Legislature was the first of many states to petition the government of the United States to take action to develop and deploy a robust and layered missile defense system, including the most effective combination of land-, sea-, air-, and space-based architectures.
- The Congressionally mandated Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack found, in its report delivered July 2004, that an EMP attack could be made by a rogue state against the United States using a low yield nuclear weapon detonated at a high altitude above the United States, and delivered by even a "relatively unsophisticated" short or medium range ballistic missile, and that such an EMP attack "has the potential to hold our society at risk and might result in the defeat of our military forces." Coastal states are perhaps more vulnerable to a missile launched from a container ship offshore. In such a scenario, the national origin of the attack might remain unknown.
- This past June, the Alaska Legislature's Joint Armed Services Committee received a briefing from Commissioner Henry Kluepfel and Director Michael Frankel of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack regarding America's critical infrastructure vulnerabilities. Commissioner Kluepfel and Director Frankel also briefed members of the Adjutant Generals Association of the United States who were meeting in Anchorage at the same time.
- On the basis of these and other briefings, Alaska's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (in DMVA) has announced it will include EMP attack in its preparedness planning as this threat intersects with the full range of risks, threats and hazards confronting the state.
- Maryland has pending legislation in its House and Senate to establish a task force to assess critical infrastructure vulnerabilities against broad scale attack such as electromagnetic pulse. The report of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack urged state authorities and private-sector organizations to work with the Department of Homeland Security to develop draft protocols for implementation by emergency and other government responders following an EMP attack. *This resolution of the Alaska Legislature makes it the policy of the state of Alaska to follow the relevant recommendations of the EMP Commission and it urges the Department of Homeland Security to support states in doing this work.*



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March 28, 2008

**Talking points on the resolution relating to the defense of Alaska against electromagnetic pulse (EMP):**

**1. EMP Commission**

- a. The Commission to Assess the Threat to the Nation from Electromagnetic Pulse Attack, mandated by Congress, to study effects of an EMP attack and US vulnerability.
- b. The Commission is chaired by Dr. William Graham, Science advisor under President Reagan and acting director of NASA during the Challenger accident. Congress continued its work for another year, partly to get states more active on this issue.
- c. Initial report issued in 2004 pointed to great vulnerabilities in US critical infrastructure. New volume of the report forthcoming this year.
- d. Military equipment and facilities have been preparing for EMP for some time. The report recommends that the Department of Homeland Security work with states on EMP preparedness planning for the civil sector.
- e. Joint resolution makes it policy of the state of Alaska to follow the recommendation of the EMP Commission and urges the federal government in general (specifically the Department of Homeland Security) to support states in doing this work

**2. Explanation of EMP**

- a. EMP caused by detonating nuclear device high in the atmosphere, sending a shock wave that works like lightning.
- b. Explosion won't kill anyone – directly.
- c. EMP disables the power grid, communications networks that depend on power, and generally renders our emergency response and communications capability ineffective. Most of our critical infrastructure all depends on power from the grid or generators and transformers attached to the grid.

**3. Alaska and other state-level involvement on EMP issue**

- a. In June 2007 Commissioner Hank Kluepfel and Executive Director Michael Frankel briefed Alaska's Joint Armed Services Committee and a gathering of the nations' Adjutants General hosted in Anchorage by Alaska's Adjutant General Craig Campbell.
- b. Alaska's State Emergency Response Commission is including EMP threats and effects in a rewrite of Alaska's state emergency response plan

c. **Legislation to create critical infrastructure protection task force introduced to Maryland's House and Senate this year**

4. **Missile defense link**

- a. In 1997 Alaska Legislature was first to petition federal government to develop robust, layered missile defense system to protect all 50 states
- b. Defense architecture needed to protect against ballistic missile attack is same architecture necessary for defense against a single, Scud-type missile which could bring about an EMP attack
- c. It is important for Alaska, as a site for US missile defense, to be aware of the threats that could affect us, and continue to support defenses to deter or turn back those threats.

## **Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Attack**

Established by Congress through Title X National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006

March 28, 2008

The Honorable Lyda Green,  
President, Alaska State Senate  
The Honorable John L. Harris  
Speaker, Alaska House of Representatives  
The State Capitol  
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

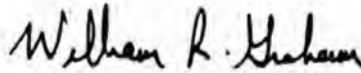
Dear Speaker Harris and Senator Green

I am honored to have this opportunity to commend your consideration of SJR 19 and HJR 40 introduced in both Houses of the Alaska legislature on behalf of the Joint Armed Services Committee. As you may know, the "US Congressional Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States from Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Attack" has been extended with bi-partisan support to complete its work outlined by Public Law 106-398 Title XIV including its responsibility to "recommend any steps it believes should be taken by the United State to better protect its military and civilian systems from EMP attack". The Commission's work has led us to the unanimous conclusions that "1) EMP is one of a small number of threats that can hold society at risk of catastrophic consequences, 2) "a determined adversary can achieve an EMP attack without having a high degree of sophistication" and, 3) that "the current vulnerability of our critical infrastructures can invite and reward attack if not corrected."

The approach embodied in your resolution is outstanding for a number of key reasons. First, it focuses on the necessity for preparedness and planning against the potential of massive disruption that is more likely to ensue in the absence of such planning. Secondly, it urges local government and the private sector to take the lead in identifying critical vulnerabilities in their infrastructures, which is the first critical step toward reducing the likelihood they might be exploited. At the same time, it recognizes that the issue requires a partnership between State-based planning efforts and the national and homeland security responsibilities of the Federal government. Finally, it proposes to include such planning efforts within the context of an all-hazards approach to the full range of risks confronting the State of Alaska.

I believe that any planning efforts and actions taken by the State of Alaska pursuant to the passage of this resolution would be a model for the rest of the nation to follow. As such, I believe the State will attract the advice and support of leading experts and organizations to provide whatever assistance the State and its local governments might need to make their own informed decisions regarding critical infrastructure protection. To that end, the Commission would certainly be willing to provide to Alaska information it has developed in pursuit of its mandate

Respectfully,



Honorable William R. Graham  
Chairman

c.c. Senator Bill Wielechowski, Co-Chair, Joint Armed Services Committee

Representative Nancy Dahlstrom, Co-Chair, Joint Armed Services Committee

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