

# SR-12

Protecting the United States from an imminent and crippling cyber attack by the People's Republic of China, with an attack on the U.S. power grid being of the highest concern and greatest danger.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS NATION

Mr. Ellison of Virginia submitted the following resolution;

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# RESOLUTION

Protecting the United States from an imminent and crippling cyber attack by the People's Republic of China, with an attack on the U.S. power grid being of the highest concern and greatest danger.

Whereas the U.S. power grid is vulnerable to cyber-attacks and lacks protective infrastructure;

Whereas on December 3, 2022, a shooting attack was carried out on two electrical distribution substations located in Moore County, North Carolina, United States. Damage from the attack left up to 40,000 residential and business customers without electrical power for several days;

Whereas physical attacks like in Moore County are dangerous, cyber attacks have the potential to be much more detrimental;

Whereas if nine key electrical substations were targeted, a sophisticated, targeted cyberattack could knock out large portions of the U.S. power grid for nine to 18 months;

Whereas a blackout of this length would practically be irrecoverable, leading to chaos, anarchy, and disintegration of law and order, putting American democracy in jeopardy;

Whereas the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic triggered a chronic labor shortage. This, coupled

with the scarcity of talent in the cybersecurity space, has greatly impacted cybersecurity circles.

Statistics show that 52 million data breaches occurred globally during the second quarter of the year;  
and

Whereas the U.S. is currently facing a 3.4 million person shortage of cybersecurity professionals amid the exponential rise in cybercrime. There still will be an expected 3.5 million open cybersecurity positions in 2025:: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate -

(1) Creates a cybersecurity committee that includes a power grid protection subcommittee; and (2)  
Promotes youth cyber educational programs like CyberPatriot for and in all public high schools