Bill Referrals
1. Consent Bill Referrals

Resolutions
2. ACR 112 (Mullin) Relative to Irish American Heritage Month.
3. ACR 113 (Hagman) Relative to Epilepsy awareness.
4. ACR 114 (Campos) Relative to César Chávez.

Request to Add Urgency Request
5. SB 699 (Hill) Relative to Public utilities: electrical and gas corporations.
# REFWERAL OF BILLS TO COMMITTEE

03/13/2014

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 112

Introduced by Assembly Member Mullin

February 25, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 112—Relative to Irish American Heritage Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 112, as amended, Mullin. Irish American Heritage Month. This measure would designate March 2014 as Irish American Heritage Month in honor of the multitude of contributions that Irish Americans have made to the country and state.

Fiscal committee: no.

WHEREAS, Millions of Irish people, faced with severe hardship due to famine and poverty in their nation, immigrated to the United
States over the last several centuries in search of a more promising future for themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, The journey to America from the Emerald Isle was not paved with gold. The Irish spirit of determination, perseverance, and grit prevailed against dangerous seas and deadly conditions with their hearts set on the horizon; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans initially suffered prejudice and discrimination upon first arriving in the United States. As the years went on, Irish Americans became deeply integrated in their communities and made numerous contributions in all aspects of American society and culture; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans played vital roles in the development of the United States. Nine Irish Americans were signers of the Declaration of Independence, and 22 Presidents of the United States have been of Irish heritage, including John F. Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, Bill Clinton, and Barack Obama; and

WHEREAS, Many people of Irish descent have contributed to great movements that have helped to shape our country and its role in the world, including Mother Jones, labor activist; Lucy Burns, activist in the Women’s Movement; and Senator George Mitchell, negotiator of the Irish Peace Accord; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans have also played a major role in California politics as governors, legislative leaders, city mayors, and other public officials, who have worked tirelessly to build California to the state that it is today; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans were significantly involved in the development of infrastructure throughout the United States, especially in California. This included work on railroads and bridges that connected the west to the east. The Irish were also instrumental in the building of dams, roads, canals, and buildings that expanded greatly in the late 1800s; and

WHEREAS, Many Irish Americans have made their mark as peace officers and firefighters, and have risked or lost their lives on countless occasions in carrying out their duties; and

WHEREAS, Many outstanding soldiers, never to be forgotten, who fought for American freedom in the Revolutionary War were of Irish descent. Irish Americans have proudly served with distinction in every war that this nation has fought and continue to do so today; and
WHEREAS, Many Irish Americans have contributed greatly to the United States economy in business, including: Alexander Stewart, the inventor of the American department store; Cathleen Black, president of Hearst Publishing; Jack Welch, former president and chief executive officer of General Electric; and Herb Kelleher, cofounder of Southwest Airlines; Paul Adams of Facebook; John Donahoe, chief executive officer of eBay, Inc.; Conrad Burke, founder of Innovialight; and Maggie Sullivan Wilderotter, chief executive officer of Frontier Communications; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans have contributed to the field of science, including astronaut Michael Collins, first female commander of a space shuttle, Eileen Collins, physicist and Nobel Laureate Charles Townes, and bioengineer and MacArthur “Genius grant” recipient James Collins; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans have contributed to the American literary tradition through great authors, including Flannery O’Connor, Eugene O’Neill, F. Scott Fitzgerald, Mary McCarthy, Tom Clancy, and Frank McCourt; and

WHEREAS, Irish Americans have contributed to American entertainment with such stars as actors Jack Nicholson, John Wayne, and George Clooney; actor and comedian Bill Murray; actress Grace Kelly; actress and comedian Rosie O’Donnell; actor and singer Bing Crosby; actress and singer Rosemary Clooney; actress and singer Judy Garland; comedian Conan O’Brien; and actor and director Edward Burns, all being of Irish heritage; and

WHEREAS, Today, over 34 million Americans claim Irish heritage, and they continue to contribute to the American and California politics, economy, and culture; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature, in honor of the multitude of contributions that Irish Americans have made to make this a better country and state for all people, designates March 2014 to be Irish American Heritage Month in California, and calls upon the people of the state to observe the month of March with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities, especially on March 17, since everyone is Irish on St. Patrick’s Day; and be it further
Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.
SUBJECT: Irish American Heritage Month.

SUMMARY: Designates March 2014, as Irish American Heritage Month in honor of all the contributions that Irish Americans have made to better the country and state for all people, and calls upon the people of the state to observe Irish American Heritage Month with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities, especially on March 17. Specifically, this resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) Over the last several centuries, millions of Irish people faced severe hardship in their nation and immigrated to the United States in search of a more promising future for themselves and their families.

2) Irish Americans initially suffered prejudice and discrimination upon arriving in the United States; and, as the years went on, Irish Americans became very involved in the community and made important contributions in all aspects of American society and culture, especially in California.

3) Today, over 34 million Americans claim Irish heritage, and they continue to contribute to American and California politics, economy, and culture.

FISCAL EFFECT: None

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support
None on file

**Opposition**

None on file

**Analysis Prepared by:** Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800
Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 113

Introduced by Assembly Member Hagman

February 25, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 113—Relative to epilepsy awareness.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 113, as introduced, Hagman. Epilepsy awareness.
This measure would proclaim March 26, 2014, as Purple Day to increase epilepsy awareness.

Fiscal committee: no.

WHEREAS, Epilepsy is a neurological disorder producing brief disturbances in the normal electrical functions of the brain that temporarily affects a person’s consciousness, bodily movements, or sensations, while creating long-term effects on the lifestyle of individuals with epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, One in 26 people will develop epilepsy and one in 10 people will have an epileptic seizure during his or her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Epilepsy can affect anyone regardless of their gender, race, age, religion, educational background, or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, More people suffer from epilepsy than from Parkinson’s disease, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, and cerebral palsy combined; and

WHEREAS, Epilepsy affects more than 65 million people worldwide; and
WHEREAS, Although there is no known cure for epilepsy, existing drug therapy, surgery, and other nonpharmacological treatments enable approximately 80 percent of individuals with epilepsy to lead normal lives with no seizures or a significant reduction in seizures; and
WHEREAS, Epilepsy is a complex disorder that requires further research to find a cure and prevention; and
WHEREAS, The public is often unable to recognize common seizure types or to respond with appropriate first aid, and
WHEREAS, The annual observance of Purple Day on March 26 advocates for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons with epilepsy, while raising awareness with families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disorder; now, therefore, be it
Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby proclaims March 26, 2014, as Purple Day and invites all Californians to participate by wearing purple and calls upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of epilepsy through education while ensuring that all individuals with epilepsy lead a full and productive life; and be it further Resolved, that the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.
SUBJECT: Epilepsy Awareness.

SUMMARY: Proclaims March 26, 2014, as Purple Day to increase the awareness of epilepsy. Specifically, this resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) Epilepsy is a neurological disorder producing brief disturbances in the normal electrical functions of the brain that temporarily affects a person's consciousness, bodily movements, or sensations, while creating long-term effects to the lifestyle of the individuals with epilepsy.

2) Epilepsy can affect anyone regardless of their gender, race, age, religion, educational background, or socioeconomic status; and, more people suffer from epilepsy than from Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, muscular dystrophy, and cerebral palsy combined.

3) One in 26 people will develop epilepsy and one in 10 people will have an epileptic seizure during his or her lifetime.

4) Although there is no known cure for epilepsy, existing drug therapy, surgery, and other nonpharmacological treatments enable approximately 80 percent of individuals with epilepsy to lead normal lives with no seizures or a significant reduction in seizures.

5) The annual observance of Purple Day on March 26 advocates for the rights, humane treatment, and appropriate education of all persons with epilepsy, while raising awareness with families, professionals, and the general public to better understand this lifelong disorder.
FISCAL EFFECT:  None

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file

Opposition

None on file

Analysis Prepared by:  Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800
Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 114

Introduced by Assembly Members Campos and Alejo

February 25, 2014

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 114—Relative to César Chávez.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

ACR 114, as introduced, Campos. César Chávez.
This measure would call upon all Californians to observe César Chávez’s birthday, March 31, as a day of public service, to recognize the hard work and self-sacrifice that farmworkers go through to feed all the families in our state, and to learn from César Chávez’s life and his mission of nonviolence, social justice, and selfless service to others.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, César Estrada Chávez is one of the most significant civil rights leaders in the history of our nation. César Chávez recognized that the dignity of a society can be measured by the dignity by which the people who help feed our nation are treated; and

2 WHEREAS, César Chávez experienced the hardships and injustices of farmworker life firsthand. He was born on March 31, 1927, in the North Gila River Valley in Arizona, on the small family farm his grandfather homesteaded. César Chávez’s father lost the farm during the Great Depression, forcing the family to join some 30,000 farmworkers who followed the crops throughout California and lived in tents and makeshift housing that often lacked a bathroom, electricity, or running water; and
WHEREAS, César Chávez understood the value of education as a path to a better life because he left school after completing the 8th grade to work full time, helping to support his family in the fields. Later in life, César Chávez became self-educated through his passion for reading; and

WHEREAS, Although later a pacifist, in 1946, César Chávez enrolled and served his country in the United States Navy. He was honorably discharged whereupon he married Helen Fabela and eventually settled in the East San Jose barrio nicknamed “Sal Si Puedes” (“Get Out if You Can”) to raise a family that eventually numbered eight children; and

WHEREAS, In San Jose, César Chávez was introduced to the social teachings of the Catholic Church and trained in peaceful community organizing strategies at McDonnell Hall, historically known as Guadalupe Mission Chapel. César Chávez and Fred Ross, an organizer for the Community Service Organization (CSO), established CSO chapters across California and Arizona during the 1950s, helping Latinos register to vote, pushing for basic public services and infrastructure in the barrios, peacefully battling police brutality and racial discrimination, and creating the most effective Latino civil rights group of its era; and

WHEREAS, In 1962, after failing to convince the CSO to let him organize farmworkers, César Chávez resigned from the only decent paying job he ever held and moved his wife and eight children to Delano, California. There, with $1,200 in life savings that was soon gone, César Chávez, his family, and close friends began building the National Farm Workers Association, which later became the United Farm Workers of America (UFW); and

WHEREAS, In 1965, in a partnership with a union of Filipino American farmworkers, César Chávez organized a major strike against grape growers in California. The following year, in 1966, César Chávez led an unprecedented 340-mile march, from Delano to Sacramento, that placed the farmworkers’ plight before the conscience of the American people. Supporters carried slogans with the words “HUELGA” (strike) and “VIVA LA CAUSA” (long live our cause), advocating for improved compensation and labor conditions. Later efforts, including a 25-day fast by César Chávez, resulted in the enactment of California’s historic Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, the first and still the
only law in the nation to “encourage and protect” the right of
farmworkers to organize and bargain with their employers; and

WHEREAS, Through countless strikes, boycotts, marches, and
fasts that produced many victories and some defeats, César Chávez,
who even considered vegetarianism an integral part of living
nonviolently, never stopped his peaceful battles on behalf of the
farmworkers with whom he shared his life. His dedication to his
work earned him the respect of some of our greatest political and
civil rights leaders, including Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King
Jr., and Jesse Jackson. César Chávez’s motto in life, “Sí Se Puede!”
or “Yes We Can!” has served as an inspiration not only for Latinos,
but for working Americans of all walks for life; and

WHEREAS, In 1993, César Chávez died peacefully in his sleep
in San Luis, Arizona. During funeral services in Delano, 40,000
people marched in procession behind his plain pine casket. They
came to affirm César Chávez’s words from his landmark 1984
address to the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco: “Once social
change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot uneducate the
person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate the person
who feels pride. You cannot oppress the people who are not afraid
anymore”; and

WHEREAS, Although César Chávez was uncomfortable with
personal recognition in life, since his passing Chávez has been
honored in hundreds of communities. César Chávez was awarded
“El Aguila Azteca” (the Aztec Eagle), Mexico’s highest award
presented to people of Mexican heritage. In 1994, President Bill
Clinton posthumously presented César Chávez with America’s
highest civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In 2006,
California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger inducted César
Chávez into the first class of the California Hall of Fame. In 2011,
the United States Navy announced naming the latest Lewis and
Clark-class cargo ship being built in San Diego the USNS César
Chávez; and

WHEREAS, In 2012, in recognition of the impact of César
Chávez to our nation’s and state’s history, President Barack Obama
established the César E. Chávez National Monument at Nuestra
Senora Reina de la Paz in Keene, California and concurrently
designated La Paz as a National Historical Landmark. In 2013, La
Paz, which is César Chávez’s final resting ground, McDonnell
Hall, located in San Jose, California, the former site of the UFW
headquarters, known as the Forty Acres, the Filipino Community Hall in Delano, California, and the 1966 march route from Delano to Sacramento were four of five sites, out of 100, found to be nationally significant for a National Historic Park honoring César Chávez. In 2013, McDonnell Hall (formerly Guadalupe Mission Chapel) was designated a State Historical Landmark for its close association with the life and work of César Chávez; and

WHEREAS, Since César Chávez’s passing, the UFW has continued his work through organizing farmworkers and campaigns to enact laws and regulations to bring dignity and protections to farmworkers. Meanwhile, the César Chávez Foundation continues improving the lives of hundreds of thousands of farmworkers and other low-wage working families through 30 high-quality affordable housing communities it has built or renovated and manages in four states, a network of nine popular educational Spanish-language radio stations in three states, after-school tutoring for disadvantaged students in two states, and the National Chávez Center, including a visitor center, memorial gardens, and educational center on 187 acres in the Tehachapi Mountains where César Chávez lived and worked, and is buried; and

WHEREAS, César Chávez successfully increased public awareness of farmworker working conditions. To many Californians the farmworkers’ struggles are an issue from the past, a belief reflected by the fact that farmworker suffering typically takes place in remote areas far from cities, thereby rendering farmworkers invisible to our society. The fruits and vegetables that we enjoy in our daily lives are produced by farmworkers who often endure long hours of backbreaking work and still face challenges such as inadequate enforcement of pesticide, safety, and labor protection laws in the fields; and

WHEREAS, Farmworkers still dream of providing a better life for their children, but the reality of having to move from crop to crop makes this dream hard to achieve. Economic forces and the rising cost of living have pushed farmworkers further into poverty; and

WHEREAS, In 2000, the Legislature passed and Governor Gray Davis signed into law Senate Bill 984 (Chapter 213 of the Statutes of 2000), to create the first annual state holiday in the country on César Chávez’s birthday, March 31, in recognition of César Chávez as the most important Latino leader in the United States during
the 20th century. Under that law, the State Board of Education also created a statewide curriculum on César Chávez and encourages schools across the state to engage teachers and students in service learning projects as a way of honoring the legendary farm labor and civil rights leader; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature calls upon all Californians to observe César Chávez's birthday, March 31, as a day of public service; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature calls upon all Californians to recognize the hard work and self-sacrifice that farmworkers go through to feed all the families in our state; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature calls upon all Californians to learn from César Chávez's life and his mission of nonviolence, social justice, and selfless service to others; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the Chávez family, particularly César Chávez's widow, Helen Chávez, the United Farm Workers of America, the César Chávez Foundation, and the author for appropriate distribution.
SUMMARY: Recognizes March 31, as the anniversary of the birth of César Chávez, and calls upon all Californians to recognize the hard work and self-sacrifice that farmworkers go through to feed all the families in our state and to learn from César Chávez's life and his mission of nonviolence, social justice, and selfless service to others. Specifically, this resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) On March 31, 1927, César Estrada Chávez was born in Yuma, Arizona.

2) As a farmworker, César Chávez experienced firsthand the injustice of working long hours with little pay. Under those conditions, Mr. Chávez began a long career in which he worked to improve the working and living conditions for farmworkers preaching nonviolence and fasting to call attention to the immigrant workers' cause.

3) In 2000, the Legislature enacted SB 984 (Chapter 213, Statutes of 2000) to create an annual state holiday on César Chávez birthday, March 31; and, as provided in the bill, the State Board of Education adopted a model curriculum on the life and work of César Chávez which includes topics on pesticides, immigration, and agriculture's role in the economy.

4) In 2012, President Barack Obama established the César E. Chávez National Monument at Nuestra Señora Reina de la Paz in Keene, California and concurrently designate La Paz as a National Historic Landmark; and in 2013, McDonnell Hall (formerly Guadalupe Mission Chapel) was designated a State Historical Landmark for its close association with the life and work of César Chávez.

FISCAL EFFECT: None.
REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

None on file.

Opposition

None on file.

Analysis Prepared by:  Nicole Willis / RLS. / (916) 319-2800
SENATE BILL No. 699

Introduced by Senator Hill

February 22, 2013

An act to add Sections 353.17 and 586 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to electricity. An act to add Sections 761.4 and 761.6 to the Public Utilities Code, relating to public utilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SB 699, as amended, Hill. Electricity; electrical corporations; clean distributed energy resources. Public utilities; electrical and gas corporations.

The Public Utilities Act requires the Public Utilities Commission to implement and enforce standards for the maintenance and operation of facilities for the generation of electricity owned by an electrical corporation or located in the state to ensure their reliable operation.

This bill would require an electrical corporation, by July 1, 2015, to submit to the commission a security plan to enhance the robustness and resilience of its electrical distribution facilities. The bill would require the commission, in consultation with the electrical corporation and applicable local, state, and federal agencies to determine the appropriate level of public access to the security plan. The bill would require the commission to consider the cost of constructing distribution
infrastructure necessary to implement the security plan as a part of the
next general rate case for the electrical corporation.

This bill would require an electrical or gas corporation to develop
an official memorandum of understanding with state and local law
enforcement officials describing each party’s responsibilities before,
during, and immediately following the deliberate destruction of that
corporation’s equipment that leads to a disruption of electric or gas
service. The bill would require an electrical or gas corporation, after
consultation with, and approval from, the Department of the California
Highway Patrol, to train and designate relevant employees as first
responders to manage infrastructure hazards and restore essential
electric or gas service in the event of an accident, natural disaster, or
security breach.

Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act or any order,
decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the commission is
a crime.

Because the provisions of this bill are within the act, a violation of
these provisions would impose a state-mandated local program by
creating a new crime.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local
agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state.
Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that
reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act
for a specified reason.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory
authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations, as
defined. The Public Utilities Act requires each public utility to furnish
reports to the commission at the time and in the form as the commission
may require and in those reports the utility is required to specifically
answer all questions propounded by the commission. The act authorizes
the commission to require any public utility to file periodic reports
concerning any matter about which the commission is authorized by
any law to inquire or to keep itself informed, or which it is required to
enforce. The act requires each electrical corporation, as a part of its
distribution planning process, to consider specified nonutility owned
distributed energy resources as an alternative to investments in its
distribution system to ensure reliable electric services at the lowest
possible costs.
This bill would require an electrical corporation to annually report to the commission capital expenditures included in the distribution category of the electrical corporation’s ratebase for each project. The bill would require an electrical corporation to report all interconnection costs charged to the customer for each interconnection agreement to interconnect distributed energy resources. The bill would require the Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to direct an electrical corporation to consider and procure clean distributed energy resources, as defined, to meet distribution grid needs as a part of the electrical corporation’s transmission and distribution grid infrastructure investments and to consider and procure clean distributed energy resources to meet the electrical corporation’s needs as part of any procurement and planning process at the commission, the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, or the Independent System Operator.

Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act or any order, decision, rule, direction, demand, or requirement of the Public Utilities Commission is a crime.

Because the provisions of this bill are within the act and require action by the Public Utilities Commission to implement its requirements, a violation of these provisions would impose a state mandated local program by creating a new crime.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.


The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 761.4 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to read:

761.4. (a) On or before July 1, 2015, an electrical corporation shall submit to the commission a security plan to enhance the robustness and resilience of its electrical distribution facilities that identifies improvements to achieve all of the following:
(1) Make the electric power delivery system less vulnerable to security threats, whether physical, cyber, or personnel-related, which may include the hardening of key substations and control centers, increased physical surveillance, and increased air gapping of electronic communication and control systems.

(2) Reduce the consequence of successful security breaches, which may include more robust substation and grid design, infrastructure modernization, and selective demand-side management.

(3) Improve the speed of electric power restoration in the event of a successful security breach, which may include enhanced training of relevant personnel, improved blackstart capability, and acquisition of convenient locations for critical spare parts.

(4) Make critical services less vulnerable while the delivery of conventional electric power has been disrupted, which may include the avoidance of cross dependencies and the collocation of generation or storage with critical loads such as pumps for water supply.

(b) In developing the security plan, an electrical corporation shall consider improvements that can be incorporated cost-effectively and consistently with reductions or increases in local generation capacity needs, safety and reliability needs, planned efforts to promote distributed resources, demand-side management, smart grid, and other security efforts undertaken at the regional and national level.

(c) The commission, in consultation with the electrical corporation and applicable local, state, and federal agencies, shall determine an appropriate level of public access to the security plan submitted by the electrical corporation that is consistent with Section 583 and existing commission policies. A determination that the commission makes regarding public access to security plans shall not create barriers to essential information sharing among local, state, and federal law enforcement and emergency response agencies. The commission shall make this determination before accepting the security plan from an electrical corporation.

(d) The commission shall review each security plan and approve, or modify and approve, the plan for that electrical corporation.

(e) The commission shall consider the costs of constructing distribution infrastructure necessary to implement the security plan as a part of the next general rate case for the electrical
corporation unless the commission determines otherwise. The
commission may adopt criteria, benchmarks, and accountability
mechanisms to evaluate the success of any investment authorized
pursuant to the security plan.

SEC. 2. Section 761.6 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to
read:

761.6. (a) An electrical or gas corporation shall develop an
official memorandum of understanding with state and local law
enforcement officials that describes each party’s responsibilities
before, during, and immediately following the deliberate
destruction of the electrical or gas corporation’s equipment that
leads to a disruption of electric or gas service. The memorandum
of understanding shall provide a clear understanding of who is in
charge and explain how decisions will be reached in dealing with
potential tensions between crime scene investigation and timely
restoration of service, as well as with unanticipated contingencies.
(b) An electrical or gas corporation, after consultation with,
and approval from, the Department of the California Highway
Patrol, shall train and designate relevant employees as first
responders to manage infrastructure hazards and restore essential
electric and gas service in the event of an accident, natural
disaster, or security breach. The Department of the California
Highway Patrol may impose any requirements necessary to ensure
that the designation of relevant electrical or gas corporation
employees promotes public health, safety, and security.

SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
Constitution.

SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
following:
(a) Clean distributed energy resources, including distributed
generation, can reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, reduce
criteria air pollution, reduce water consumption, increase grid
reliability, localize power generation, and decrease reliance on large, polluting generation facilities.

(b) The Legislature has established programs and policies to support the commercialization and growth of clean-distributed generation technologies, including the California Solar Initiative, combined-heat-and-power feed-in tariffs pursuant to the Waste Heat and Carbon Emissions Reduction Act, the self-generation incentive program, and the renewable market adjusting tariff.

c) A central impediment to increased proliferation of distributed energy resources is a lack of transparency in current utility infrastructure investments in the distribution grid and in the costs and process associated with interconnection to the utility grid, costs that are ultimately borne by ratepayers.

d) Transparency on what distribution grid investments have been made will allow policymakers and stakeholders to better understand and evaluate what types of clean-distributed energy resources may be more cost effective and better serve the grid and ratepayers for future investments.

SEC. 2. Section 353.17 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to read:

353.17. (a) The commission, in consultation with the Energy Commission, shall do all of the following:

(1) Direct each electrical corporation to consider and procure clean distributed energy resources to meet distribution grid needs as a part of the electrical corporation’s transmission and distribution grid infrastructure investments.

(2) Direct each electrical corporation to consider and procure clean-distributed energy resources to meet the electrical corporation’s needs as part of any procurement and planning process at the commission, the Energy Commission, or the Independent System Operator.

(b) For the purposes of this section, “clean-distributed energy resources” means an electric-generation technology that meets both of the following requirements:

(1) Reduces greenhouse gas emissions as determined by the State Air Resources Board greenhouse gas emissions factor pursuant to the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 (Division 25.5 (commencing with Section 38500) of the Health and Safety Code).
(2) Complies with emission standards and guidance adopted by the State Air Resources Board pursuant to Sections 41514.9 and 41514.10 of the Health and Safety Code.

(3) Is interconnected to the electrical corporation’s distribution grid.

SEC. 3. Section 586 is added to the Public Utilities Code, to read:

586. (a) For capital expenditures included in the distribution category of the electrical corporation’s ratebase, the electrical corporation shall annually report expenditures for each project, including all of the following:

(1) The total dollar amount.

(2) The type of equipment installed.

(3) The purpose of the expenditure.

(b) The report shall also include the rationale for the deployment of distributed energy resources, both existing and projected, factored into its distribution planning assumptions and expenditures. This shall include both a summary of the methodologies used to track and anticipate distributed energy system deployments and how that information is then used for distribution planning.

(c) For each interconnection agreement executed with customers that interconnect distributed energy resources, the electrical corporation shall report all interconnection costs charged to the customer.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.
March 11, 2014

Assemblymember Richard Gordon
Chair, Assembly Committee on Rules
State Capitol, Room 3016
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Urgency Request, SB 699 (Electric grid security)

Dear Assemblymember Gordon,

I request permission to have an urgency added to SB 699 (Hill), which requires investor-owned electric utilities to file security plans with the California Public Utilities Commission and requires them to coordinate with law enforcement. I request to add an urgency clause for two reasons. First, the attack on PG&E’s Metcalf substation has demonstrated that security of our electric grid is seriously deficient and needs to be addressed immediately. Second—and more concretely—much is happening with respect to the security of our electric power system, and it is important that electric utilities know what will be required of them as soon as is practicable. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued an order on Friday to require the portion of our utilities under federal jurisdiction to develop a similar plan as to what SB 699 requires.

For these reasons I request that the Assembly Committee on Rules approve an urgency clause to SB 699. If you have any questions, please contact Patrick Welch or Tony Marino on my staff at 651-4013.

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

JERRY HILL
Senator, 13th District

cc: Assemblymember Steven Bradford