

## Eagle Forum Welcomes Becky Gerritson as new Executive Director



On January 10, 2019, Eagle Forum of Alabama President Eunie Smith and Foundation President Jim Cooper announced Becky Gerritson as its new Executive Director.

Becky has been a strong advocate for conservatism in Alabama since founding the Wetumpka Tea Party in 2009. In 2016, Gerritson received Heritage Action Sentinel's Firewall for Freedom Award, was named in Yellowhammer's 2017 Power and Influence List, and was on AL.com's Twenty Most Influential List in 2015.

Becky Gerritson gained national acclaim for her testimony before Congress after President Obama's IRS unfairly targeted the Wetumpka Tea Party and other organizations for their conservative beliefs. She has been lauded by conservative figures across the country such as Rush Limbaugh and Fox Business' Stuart Varney. Gerritson was a Republican candidate for Congress in Alabama District 2 in 2016.

"It is an honor to welcome Becky Gerritson as our Executive Director," Eunie Smith, President of Eagle Forum of Alabama said. "Becky is an effective conservative leader with a long history of championing the values that Eagle Forum exists to preserve. I have every confidence in Becky's leadership abilities, and I believe that as Eagle Forum of Alabama Executive Director she will continue to be a bold and respected voice of conviction, principle, and informed policy in Alabama."

"Eagle Forum has been an influential powerhouse of principled conservative thought and grassroots activism for decades," Gerritson said Thursday. "I am thrilled to be on the leadership team of this incredible organization. As Alabama moves into 2019 and beyond, it is crucial that our principled conservative voice be stronger and more compelling than ever. I look forward to continuing the fight for our future and our republic with Eagle Forum of Alabama."

The late Phyllis Schlafly, beloved founding president of Eagle Forum and chairman of its board until her death, [wrote](#) in 2016: "Becky Gerritson is a proven leader. She understands that sound governance doesn't mean just passing bills that the president will sign, as the current Congress continues to do. She knows that sound governance means upholding and defending the Constitution, protecting the security of the American people, and defending the values that have made our country great. Her dedication and passion for the conservative cause has been seen not only by Alabamians but by the nation as she has fearlessly and tirelessly fought against the progressive agenda and big government."

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# The Impact of an Electromagnetic Pulse —Part 1

By Theresa Hubbard, National Eagle Forum Chair for Terror Issues

What exactly is an Electromagnetic Pulse, commonly called EMP, type event and why should we be concerned? Dr. Peter Pry explains it this way, "This new warfare uses cyber viruses, hacking, physical attacks, non-nuclear EMP weapons, and a nuclear EMP attack against electric grids and critical infrastructures. It renders modern armies, navies, and air forces obsolete. It paves the way for asymmetric warfare by small nations and terrorists."<sup>1</sup> Additionally, there is a naturally occurring phenomena called a Geomagnetic Disturbance from extreme solar weather or solar superstorms. "NASA estimates the likelihood of such an event to be 10 to 12 percent per decade, making it very likely that Earth will be affected by a solar superstorm within a matter of decades."<sup>2</sup>



An EMP type event or a solar superstorm, has the capability to instantly destroy America's critical infrastructure, causing a complete blackout of its electrical grid, and instantaneously obliterate any equipment that has a microchip in it. A nuclear device detonated 30 miles above the earth, over the United States, can potentially impact a 1000-mile radius. If detonated at 300 miles, it will impact most of North America. Think of it as an invisible wave going through the air or along the internet destroying every electronic component in its path.

These occurrences will cause little physical harm to the population, except for those with medical implant devices. Those who have implants such as a pacemaker could be impacted as instantaneously as the electrical grid. For those individuals, it could be detrimental.

Either event will take the 2019 American population instantly back to 1849 living. The electricity goes out with no notice, the internet is down, your car won't start, your cell phone doesn't work, the TV goes off, the radio is out, you turn to your emergency weather radio for information and nothing is on the air, there is no way to reach out to any local, state, or federal agency to figure out what is going on. Are we ready? The resounding answer is no. The people are not ready, the government is not ready, and those in charge of our critical infrastructure are not ready. Our elected officials as well as those in charge of our electrical grids are aware of the dangers of an EMP type event and have done little to protect our critical infrastructure from such a catastrophic event. This is not like a Hurricane Katrina, Harvey, a Super Storm Sandy or even the infamous wildfires of the west, where outside resources are coming to the rescue within days, weeks or even months. An EMP type event has the potential to take down our highly sophisticated, electrically dependent society for more than 18 months and possibly bring about the deaths of over 250,000,000 people in our country, "through starvation, disease, and societal collapse."<sup>3</sup>



It only takes missing five meals before an individual begins to panic and do things they would not otherwise do because of hunger. Think of the collapse of society all across our land when no resources are coming into a community, no safe drinking water, no medical supplies, no gasoline, no food, no electricity, therefore, no heat or air conditioning. It would not take long for lawlessness and chaos to set in. Hospitals and those concerned about patient care, nursing homes, and assisted living communities are at risk within a day of the grid going down because in this scenario, even backup generators don't work. The availability of life sustaining medications is gone for anyone with serious diseases, like diabetes. There will be no place to transport the critically ill or infirmed during an electrical grid black-

*Continued on page 3*

out. Essentially, there will be no place to go for relief.

Currently, American farmers can grow 40 times the crops they could grow 100 years ago, all because of today's technology. Without that technology, there is no means to plant, harvest and transport those crops to market or ship out worldwide to other nations. This capability can be wiped out in seconds. Our food sources cut off immediately.

We cannot feasibly stop a solar superstorm per se, and we will always have enemies that will want to do us harm, but we can harden/protect our infrastructure against such potentially catastrophic events. Every business, utility company, military organization, and government agency are tied to the civilian electrical grid and its internet in some way. Our government, however, seems to be just as incapable of protecting our electrical grid as they are at protecting our borders. Most Americans are unaware of this problem and "there has been very little pressure placed on our elected officials, regulators, or the utilities industry to actually solve the problem."

So, what to do? Dr. Peter Vincent Pry is one who is sounding the warning loud and clear to get the word out. Dr. Pry's expertise in these matters is renowned. He was "chief of staff of the Congressional EMP Commission, served on the staff of the House Armed Services Committee and at the CIA."<sup>5</sup> He has written many articles and several books on this topic. He has been interviewed by Mark Levin and spoken at the Eagle Forum Council in 2018. He knows exactly how to solve this problem.<sup>4</sup>

Now that you know what the problem is, in Part II of this series, we will explore Dr. Pry's findings and recommendations to the federal government. We will learn about the "Federal Energy Regulatory Commission" (FERC) and the "North American Electric Reliability Corporation" (NERC) and what their responsibilities are to the nation's grid. We will also explore who our enemies are and what they are doing to potentially create an EMP type event. Who is and is not capable? We will also discuss past small scale EMP events and severe solar weather events that have happened such as, blackout events in Mexico, Yemen, Pakistan, Turkey, and what happened in Kazakhstan in the sixties by the USSR. Lastly, how exactly do you harden an electrical grid and the costs to do so.

Part III will discuss the four states who have taken action on their own to protect their grids, the legislation drafted and passed within each state and where they are today.

Part IV, will cover what you as the individual citizen can do and how you can stay abreast of what is going on in the world of EMP. Lastly, we will discuss who the "Electric Infrastructure Security Council" (ESI Council) is and what they are doing to bring about awareness to this impending threat. Stay tuned.

<sup>1</sup><https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/washington-secrets/new-emp-warning-us-will-cease-to-exist-90-of-population-will-die>, 2/1/2019.

<sup>2</sup>Pry, Peter Vincent Dr., EMP Manhattan Project, Organizing Survival Against an Electromagnetic Pulse (EMP) Catastrophe, (pg. 14)

<sup>3</sup>A Call to Action for America: A collaborative report by: Task Force on National and Homeland Security, Secure the Grid Coalition, and other partners, October 2017, (pg. 5)

<sup>4</sup>A Call to Action for America: A collaborative report by: Task Force on National and Homeland Security, Secure the Grid Coalition and other partners, October 2017. (pg. 5)

<sup>5</sup><https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/428818-gathering-nuclear-storm-threatens-us-world>, Feb. 15, 2019

#### A Few Recommended Readings:

1. Pry, Peter Vincent, Dr., "Blackout Wars"
2. Forstchen, William R., "One Second After"
3. THE HILL: Gathering Nuclear Storm Threatens US, World  
By Dr. Peter Vincent Pry, - 2/10/2019
4. NEWSMAX: Build Star Wars Now - It's the Law  
By: Peter Pry - 2/4/2019

CDR Theresa Hubbard, who lives in Mobile, is a CDR U. S. Coast Guard (Retired). She was involved in terror related issues with the Coast Guard after 9/11/2001 until her retirement. Theresa serves as the national Eagle Forum Chair for Terror Issues and is a member of the Alabama Eagle Forum Board of Directors."

**B**riertbart.com reported on January 2, 2019 that legal and illegal migrants sent \$53.4 billion in remittances back to Mexico and Central America in 2018. This is more than double in just one year than the total cost of building a permanent barrier on the U.S. Mexico border, according to a *World Bank* report. In this same report, *Briertbart* states that the money sent to Central America rose 25 percent in just two years, due to the large increase in illegals and asylum-seeking migrants from these countries due to the “catch and release” laws. The remittances provide a huge stimulus to the countries that export their populations to the U. S., thus encouraging them to facilitate the caravans and individual migrants to come to our southern border.

**A**bortion was the leading cause of death worldwide in 2018, killing 42 million people, according to statistics compiled by Worldometers (<http://www.worldometers.info/>), more than other causes of death, such as cancer, HIV/AIDS, traffic accidents and suicide.

In America, just under 1 million babies are aborted every year, although abortion rates have been dropping in the past decade. Abortion remains the leading cause of death in the United States. An estimated 60 million unborn babies have been killed in abortions in the U. S. since *Roe V Wade* in 1973. Unfortunately, Democrats are increasing working to remove all restrictions on abortion procedures and time limits.

*LifeNews.com 12/31/2018*

**A** Pew Research survey has found that the current 116th Congress has the fewest Christians among its members since surveys first recorded the religious affiliations of members of Congress. 88 percent of the new Congress identifies as Christian, but that represents a 3% drop from the 115th Congress. Of the 255 Republican members, 253 identify as Christian with the other 2 being Jewish. Of the 282 Democrat members, 32 are Jewish, 3 are Hindus, 3 are Muslims and 2 are Buddhists. 18 refused to specify any religious affiliation.

Among Christians, Anglicans dropped by 9 seats, Catholics lost five seats and Mormons lost 3 seats. Those who said they are evangelical Christians or part of non-denominational churches increased by 18 seats.

*Source: Eagle Forum of Tenn.  
1/17/2019*

**O**n January 22, 2019 the *Washington Post* reported that the Supreme Court ruled that President Trump’s broad restrictions on newly recruited transgender people in the military could go into effect while the legal battle continues in lower courts.

The justices lifted nationwide injunctions that had kept the administration from implementing the policy. It reversed an Obama administration rule that would have opened the military to transgender men and women. Justices Roberts, Thomas, Alito, Gorsuch and Kavanaugh voted to lift the injunctions. This is not a blanket ban because “not all transgender persons seek to transition to their preferred gender.

“In my many years I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm and three or more is a government.” — John Adams

“Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of government. But then I repeat myself.” —Mark Twain

“I contend that for a nation to try to tax itself into prosperity is like a man standing in a bucket and trying to lift himself up by the handle.” —Winston Churchill

“I don’t make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts.” — Will Rogers

“Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn’t mean that politics won’t take an interest in you!”—Pericles (430B.C.)

“No man’s life, liberty, or property is safe while the legislature is in session,”—Mark Twain

“The government is like a baby’s alimentary canal, with a happy appetite at one end and no responsibility at the other.”  
—Ronald Reagan.

“The only difference between a tax man and a taxidermist is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.”  
—Mark Twain

“What this country needs are more unemployed politicians.”  
—Edward Langley, Artist [1928-1995]

“We hang the petty thieves and appoint the great ones to public office.” —Aesop (560 B.C.)

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## Democrat H. R. 1 Threatens the Election Process in the U. S.

H.R. 1 was introduced by Mr. Sarbanes (for himself and Ms. Pelosi) on January 3, 2019, the first day of the new Congressional session. It would federalize and micromanage the election process administered by the states, imposing unnecessary, unwise, and unconstitutional mandates on the states and reversing the decentralization of the American election process—which is necessary for protecting our liberty and freedom.

According to a review by the Heritage Foundation, the bill interferes with the ability of states and their citizens to determine qualifications for voters, to ensure the accuracy of voter registration rolls, to secure the integrity of elections, to participate in the political process, and to determine the district boundary lines for electing their representatives.

While it should have a hard time passing the Senate, the Democrat bill shows the full intent of the Democrats to control the election process. Major provisions of the bill would:

**1. HR1 would force the states to implement early voting, automatic voter registration, same-day registration, online voter registration, and no-fault absentee ballot whether the citizens wanted it or not.**

State residents would no longer determine how and when to hold their elections. Additionally, the states would bear the burden of trying to verify eligibility of these last-minute, automatically-registered voters. The states would also be forced to accommodate an unpredictable influx of voters on election day.

**2. States' voter rolls would be cluttered up with mandated additions of people from lists such as the welfare rolls, Department of Motor Vehicles and other state lists that include people who are ineligible to vote.**

Putting more names on the list from a variety of sources would degrade the accuracy of the voter rolls by adding duplicate entries and ineligible voters. The addition of ineligible voters on the rolls makes it easier to commit fraud at the ballot box.

**3. HR1 mandates no-fault absentee ballots which complicates the process of verifying voter eligibility.**

State election officials would not be able to verify voter eligibility through the US Postal Service's change-of-address system or participate in state programs comparing voter registration lists. They would not be able to remove registrants if they did stop voting for an extended period of time.

**4. HR1 would force the states to allow voters to vote without presenting proof of ID.**

Aspiring voters could vote in an election simply by signing a statement affirming their identity and asserting they are eligible to vote, even if the state residents want voters to present ID at the polls.

**5. HR1 imposes a legal and administrative burden on citizens, civic groups, and nonprofit organizations who want to enter the political process.**

**6. HR1 requires the state to restore voting rights immediately to felons once they are released from prison.**

The constitution gives this authority to the states to decide if and when felons who have committed crimes against their fellow citizens should be allowed to vote, but HR1 takes that decision away from the states.

**7. HR1 forces states to use unaccountable commissions to determine voting districts.**

HR1 makes it illegal to use "partisan" redistricting and instead requires the use of an unaccountable commission that doesn't answer to voters to draw districts. The law would also require alien populations be taken into account in all redistricting.

Speaker Pelosi has said that she expects the bill to be voted on in the House soon. We will continue to monitor this attack on our election process and state control over the running of our elections.

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## Battle to Stop Common Core Math in Alabama

In January, Eagle Forum was informed that the Alabama Board of Education would vote on a report from the Department to replace the existing Common Core based math course of study (standards) with a new version that also was based upon Common Core and included experimental, never before used, courses for grades 9-12. The vote was scheduled to take place on March 14, 2019.

Eunie Smith, President of Eagle Forum, sent a preliminary letter to the Board regarding the proposed course of study. Eagle Forum also brought in a standards expert from Accountability Works in DC, who met with Governor Ivey and provided her a briefing with graphs on the problems with the proposed standards. Eunie Smith, Becky Gerritson, EF Executive Director, along with a number of EF volunteers and others attended the meeting.

At the February 14, 2019 Math Work Session where the Board members discussed the proposed standards, Eagle Forum provided each member with a folder with our concerns about there still being Common Core and about the experimental high school courses. In the second half of the session, member Stephanie Bell made an impassioned plea for course correction because “this is a crisis”. No one argued.

Eagle Forum expressed our concerns about the proposal on social media as well as email alerts to let the public know about the proposed vote, urging them to contact the Governor and their Board members. Becky prepared a flyer that we distributed to the Republican Executive Committee at their winter meeting, as well as to the Wetumpka Tea Party and to the Coosa County Republican Committee where Board Member Stephanie Bell spoke against the proposed standards.

On February 24, State Board members received a letter from Jerome Zelkowski, PhD, purportedly debunking the EF flyer. We promptly prepared a response that was sent to all those who received his communication, repeating our opposition to the proposed standards and urging the Board to vote NO on them and to adopt the never Common Core standards used in Minnesota that have kept them in first or second place among the states for years.

On February 26, Board members received a letter from Governor Ivey addressed to the Superintendent asking that the vote on the standards scheduled for March 14, 2019 be postponed and that the department compare the standards to those of the five highest performing states. We are pleased that she heard our concern and those of the many people across the state who contacted her office.

On February 27, we learned that Superintendent Mackey had pulled the Course of Study from the March 14 agenda and expects it to take a few weeks for the correlation studies to be completed. In a letter to local superintendents, Mackey stated that he doesn't foresee being in a position for starting the new course of study in the new school year beginning in September.

Eagle Forum will continue to meet with individual Board members to provide facts and recommendations regarding the math standards. We must do better for our children in Alabama. We continue to encourage standards based upon the very successful non-Common Core ones used in Minnesota.

We praise God for this turn of events and that Common Sense will replace Common Core math in Alabama.

### *Book Reviews*

#### ***From Dawn to Decadence 1500 to the Present, by Jacques Barzun***

This *New York Times* bestseller by a master historian weaves 500 years of western culture into one seamless and inspiring saga.

“A stunning five-century study of civilization’s cultural retreat.”

—*William Safire, New York Times*

“From Dawn to Decadence, in short, is peerless.”

—*New York Times Book Review*

“How many times in one’s life does one get to welcome a masterpiece, which, without a doubt, this amazing work certainly is.”

—*National Review*

“Likely—I am tempted to say certain—to become a classic.”

—*William H. McNeil, Los Angeles Times*

*Jacques Barzun was born in France in 1907. He is the author of 30 books and the recipient of the gold Medal for Criticism from the American Academy of Arts and Letter. Published by HarperCollins*

#### ***When Harry Became Sally —by Ryan T. Anderson***

This book provides thoughtful answers to questions arising from our transgender moment. Drawing on the best insights from biology, psychology, and philosophy, Anderson offers a balanced approach to public policy on gender identity and a sober assessment of the human costs of getting human nature wrong.

As Anderson shows, the most beneficial therapies focus on helping people accept themselves and live in harmony with their bodies. This understanding is vital for parents with children in schools where counselors may steer a child toward transitioning behind their backs. Anderson is the Simon Senior Research Fellow at the Heritage Foundation.

**Both books are now available in the Eagle Forum Library. Call or email the office to borrow them.**

## Pro-Life Americans Skyrocket, Equaling Support for Abortion

Since the New York legislature passed its late term abortion bill making abortion acceptable at any stage, including post-birth infanticide, a poll now indicates that Americans are just as likely to say they are pro-life as pro-abortion. This is a dramatic shift according to Barbara Carvalho, director of the poll commissioned by the Knights of Columbus.

Axios has reported the poll finding: “The poll found Americans who identify as pro-life at 47% and those who say they are pro-choice at 47%.”

Just last month the numbers were pro-choice at 55% to 38% who said they were pro-life, a 17 point change.

“The survey also found that 80% of Americans support abortion being limited to the first three months of pregnancy, an increase of 5 percentage points since the first Marist poll.

In an interview with Axios, Carvalho said that this was the first time since 2009 that as many or more Americans identified as pro-life as pro-choice. She said that more and more “sensible” Democrats are disagreeing with

the Democrat bills that are being pushed in Democrat controlled states. She added that what she found more significant was that Democrats under the age of 45 seem to be leading the shift. This month, 34% of Democrats identify as pro-life vs 61% pro-choice. Last month, the numbers were 20% pro-life to 75% pro-choice.

This shift is wonderful to see as it shows that younger adults are beginning to understand the value of viable human life and are being awakened by the knowledge that such late term and beyond abortion is, indeed, infanticide. *Based upon story as reported in Big League Politics, Feb. 25, 2019*



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**Eunie Smith, Managing Director, Elaine Little, Editor**

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