

Union Calendar No. 680

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8450

[Report No. 118–833]

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate certain minerals for designation as critical minerals.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2024

Mrs. CAMMACK (for herself and Ms. SLOTKIN) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

DECEMBER 10, 2024

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole
House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on May 17, 2024]

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate certain minerals for designation as critical minerals.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Phosphate and Potash*
5 *Protection Act of 2024”.*

6 **SEC. 2. EVALUATION OF CERTAIN MINERALS FOR DESIGNA-**
7 **TION AS CRITICAL MINERALS.**

8 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the*
9 *date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, in con-*
10 *sultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall evaluate*
11 *potash, phosphates, and other minerals necessary for the*
12 *production of fertilizer and other agricultural products used*
13 *to promote crop development for designation as critical*
14 *minerals under section 7002(c)(4) of the Energy Act of 2020*
15 *(30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(4)).*

16 *(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after*
17 *the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, in*
18 *consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall—*

19 *(1) evaluate policies in place as of the date of the*
20 *enactment of this section related to the permitting*
21 *and leasing of projects for the exploration, develop-*
22 *ment, and production of the minerals described in*
23 *subsection (a); and*

1 (2) *submit to the appropriate congressional com-*
2 *mittees recommendations to support the domestic pro-*
3 *duction of such minerals.*

4 (c) *REPORT.*—*Not later than 90 days after the date*
5 *of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, in consulta-*
6 *tion with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall submit to the*
7 *appropriate congressional committees a report regarding*
8 *the evaluation carried out under subsection (a), including*
9 *a description of how each mineral described in subsection*
10 *(a) does or does not meet each requirement of the designa-*
11 *tion methodology to determine the eligibility of each such*
12 *mineral for inclusion on the critical minerals list.*

13 (d) *DESIGNATION.*—*If, pursuant to the evaluation car-*
14 *ried out under subsection (a), the Secretary, in consultation*
15 *with the Secretary of Agriculture, determines that a min-*
16 *eral described in subsection (a) meets each requirement of*
17 *the designation methodology, the Secretary, in consultation*
18 *with the Secretary of Agriculture and not later than 45*
19 *days after the date on which the report required under sub-*
20 *section (c) is submitted, shall designate such mineral as a*
21 *critical mineral under section 7002(c)(4) of the Energy Act*
22 *of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(4)) and update the critical min-*
23 *erals list accordingly.*

24 (e) *DEFINITIONS.*—*In this section:*

1 (1) *APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-*
2 *TEES.*—*The term “appropriate congressional commit-*
3 *tees” means—*

4 (A) *the Committee on Natural Resources*
5 *and the Committee on Agriculture of the House*
6 *of Representatives; and*

7 (B) *the Committee on Energy and Natural*
8 *Resources and the Committee on Agriculture,*
9 *Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.*

10 (2) *CRITICAL MINERAL.*—*The term “critical*
11 *mineral” has the meaning given the term in section*
12 *7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C.*
13 *1606(a)).*

14 (3) *CRITICAL MINERALS LIST.*—*The term “crit-*
15 *ical minerals list” means the list of critical minerals*
16 *published under section 7002(c)(3) of the Energy Act*
17 *of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(3)).*

18 (4) *DESIGNATION METHODOLOGY.*—*The term*
19 *“designation methodology” means the methodology*
20 *published under section 7002(c)(3) of the Energy Act*
21 *of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(3)) as of the date of the*
22 *enactment of this section.*

23 (5) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*
24 *the Secretary of the Interior.*

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