

Res. 174, condemning the human rights record of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and the brutal killing of Eswatini activist Thulani Maseko on January 21, 2023.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1819. Mr. SCHUMER (for Mr. COONS) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 174, condemning the human rights record of the Government of the Kingdom of Eswatini and the brutal killing of Eswatini activist Thulani Maseko on January 21, 2023; as follows:

On page 13, line 24, insert “and” after “Eswatini”;

On page 14, lines 12 and 13, strike “reform; and” and insert “reform.”;

On page 14, strike lines 14 through 19.

PROHIBITING THE USE OF FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT, ADMINISTER, OR ENFORCE CERTAIN RULES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to proceed to Calendar No. 350, S. 4072.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 350, S. 4072, a bill to prohibit the use of funds to implement, administer, or enforce certain rules of the Environmental Protection Agency.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 7888

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I understand that there is a bill at the desk that is due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The leader is correct.

The clerk will read the title of the bill for the second time.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 7888) to reform the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978.

Mr. SCHUMER. In order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I would object to further proceeding.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection having been heard, the bill will be placed on the calendar.

LEGACY MINE CLEANUP ACT OF 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 344, S. 3858.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3858) to establish within the Office of Land and Emergency Management of

the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with amendments, as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are in boldfaced brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are in italic.)

S. 3858

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Legacy Mine Cleanup Act of 2024”.

SEC. 2. OFFICE OF MOUNTAINS, DESERTS, AND PLAINS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate;

(B) the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate;

(C) the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate;

(D) the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

(E) the Committee on Indian Affairs of the Senate;

(F) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives;

(G) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives;

(H) the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;

(I) the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(J) the Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House of Representatives.

(3) COVERED MINE SITE.—The term “covered mine site” means the land, water, and surrounding watersheds where extraction, beneficiation, or processing of hardrock ores or minerals occurred, but has been discontinued, including discontinued temporarily.

(4) INDIAN COUNTRY.—The term “Indian country” has the meaning given the term in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code.

(5) NAVAJO NATION ABANDONED URANIUM MINE SITE.—The term “Navajo Nation abandoned uranium mine site” means an abandoned uranium covered mine site on land of the Navajo Nation.

(6) OFFICE.—The term “Office” means the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains established by subsection (b)(1).

(7) REGIONAL OFFICE.—The term “Regional Office” means a Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the Office of Land and Emergency Management of the Environmental Protection Agency the Office of Mountains, Deserts, and Plains.

(2) DIRECTOR.—The Office shall be headed by a Director, to be appointed by the Administrator (or a designee).

(c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Office shall be—

(1) to coordinate with the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, and stakeholders response actions of the Environmental Protection Agency at a covered mine site, including a cov-

ered mine site in Indian country (as defined in section 1151 of title 18, United States Code), in accordance with Federal law;

(2) to establish and disseminate best practices for covered mine site response actions, including identifying—

(A) innovative technologies and reuse approaches that support and make progress toward those response actions; and

(B) waste storage and disposal solutions;

(3) to coordinate with the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency, Regional Offices, Federal land management agencies, States, and voluntary nongovernmental organizations, watershed groups, nonliable entities and mining companies, and other entities voluntary response actions at covered mine sites, where applicable, including timely issuance of administrative guidance for nonliable parties;

(4) to coordinate with the headquarters of the Environmental Protection Agency and other Federal Government entities, pursuant to existing authorities under section 3303 of title 41, United States Code, hiring practices to support small business concerns to carry out response actions at covered mine sites;

(5) to coordinate with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and other Federal agencies, as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, to ensure interagency coordination of covered mine site response actions, with priority given to coordinating response actions at covered mine sites for which there is no potentially responsible party; and

(6) to coordinate other actions as the Administrator determines to be appropriate, pursuant to existing authorities of the Administrator—

(A) to support efforts to investigate, characterize, or clean up a discharge, release, or threat of release of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant into the environment at or from a covered mine site; or

(B) to establish best practices to protect and improve human health and the environment and implement appropriate reuse options, including through the use of innovative technologies to recover valuable resources from covered mine site features or areas, as applicable.

(d) DUTIES.—The Administrator shall carry out through the Office, at a minimum, the following duties:

(1) PRIORITY MINE LIST.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Annually, the Administrator shall identify covered mine sites that are prioritized for response actions, which may include covered mine sites that are or are not included on the National Priorities List developed by the President in accordance with section 105(a)(8)(B) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9605(a)(8)(B)).

(B) CREATION OF LIST; REPORTS.—The Administrator shall annually—

(i) create a list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing—

(I) the methodology used to identify those covered mine sites under that subparagraph; and

(II) the status of response actions carried out at covered mine sites on the list.

(C) COORDINATION.—The Administrator shall—

(i) regularly coordinate with Regional Offices, Federal agencies, States, Indian Tribes, *Alaska Native Corporations*, and stakeholders to update the list of covered mine sites identified under subparagraph (A); and