

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3872

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 16, 2025

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural
Resources

AN ACT

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands to
make that Act applicable to hardrock minerals.

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

1 **SECTION 1. APPLICATION OF MINERAL LEASING ACT FOR**
2 **ACQUIRED LANDS TO HARDROCK MINERALS.**

3 The Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30
4 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) is amended—

5 (1) in section 2 (30 U.S.C. 351)—

6 (A) by striking “Act ‘United States’” and
7 inserting the following: “Act:

8 “(1) UNITED STATES.—The term ‘United
9 States’”;

10 (B) by striking “Alaska. ‘Acquired lands’”
11 and inserting the following: “Alaska.

12 “(2) ACQUIRED LANDS; LANDS ACQUIRED BY
13 THE UNITED STATES.—The term ‘acquired lands’”;

14 (C) by striking “552). ‘Secretary’” and in-
15 serting the following: “552).

16 “(3) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’”;

17 (D) by striking “Interior. ‘Mineral leasing
18 laws’ shall mean” and inserting the following:
19 “Interior.

20 “(4) MINERAL LEASING LAWS.—The term ‘min-
21 eral leasing laws’ means”;

22 (E) by striking “Acts. ‘Lease’” and insert-
23 ing the following: “Acts.

24 “(5) LEASE.—The term ‘lease’”;

25 (F) by striking “requires. The term” and
26 inserting the following: “requires.

1 “(6) OIL.—The term”; and

2 (G) by adding at the end the following:

3 “(7) HARDROCK MINERAL.—The term

4 ‘hardrock mineral’—

5 “(A) includes deposits of—

6 “(i) minerals found in sedimentary or

7 other rocks;

8 “(ii) base metals;

9 “(iii) precious metals;

10 “(iv) industrial minerals; and

11 “(v) precious and semi-precious

12 gemstones; and

13 “(B) does not include deposits of—

14 “(i) coal;

15 “(ii) oil;

16 “(iii) oil shale;

17 “(iv) gas;

18 “(v) sodium;

19 “(vi) potassium;

20 “(vii) sulfur; or

21 “(viii) mineral materials subject to

22 disposition under the Act of July 31, 1947,

23 commonly known as the Materials Act of

24 1947 (30 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).”; and

1 (2) in section 3 (30 U.S.C. 352), by striking
2 “and sulfur” and inserting “sulfur, and hardrock
3 minerals”.

Passed the House of Representatives December 15,
2025.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.