

119TH CONGRESS
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To create intergovernmental coordination between State, local, Tribal, and territorial jurisdictions, and the Federal Government to combat United States reliance on the People’s Republic of China and other covered countries for critical minerals and rare earth metals, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 3, 2025

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. LANKFORD) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To create intergovernmental coordination between State, local, Tribal, and territorial jurisdictions, and the Federal Government to combat United States reliance on the People’s Republic of China and other covered countries for critical minerals and rare earth metals, and for other purposes.

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 “Intergovernmental
5 Critical Minerals Task Force Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds that—

3 (1) current supply chains of critical minerals
4 pose a great risk to the national security of the
5 United States;

6 (2) critical minerals are necessary for transpor-
7 tation, technology, renewable energy, military equip-
8 ment and machinery, and other relevant sectors cru-
9 cial for the homeland and national security of the
10 United States;

11 (3) in 2022, the United States was 100 percent
12 import reliant for 12 out of 50 critical minerals and
13 more than 50 percent import reliant for an addi-
14 tional 31 critical mineral commodities classified as
15 “critical” by the United States Geological Survey,
16 and the People’s Republic of China was the top pro-
17 ducing nation for 30 of those 50 critical minerals;

18 (4) as of July 2023, companies based in the
19 People’s Republic of China that extract critical min-
20 erals around the world have received hundreds of
21 charges of human rights violations; and

22 (5) on August 29, 2014, the World Trade Or-
23 ganization Dispute Settlement Body adopted find-
24 ings that the export restraints by the People’s Re-
25 public of China on rare earth metals, which harmed
26 manufacturers and workers in the United States,

1 violated obligations under the General Agreement on
 2 Tariffs and Trade 1994 and China’s Protocol of Ac-
 3 cession to the World Trade Organization.

4 **SEC. 3. INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS TASK**
 5 **FORCE.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of the National Mate-
 7 rials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act
 8 of 1980 (30 U.S.C. 1604) is amended by adding at the
 9 end the following:

10 “(g) INTERGOVERNMENTAL CRITICAL MINERALS
 11 TASK FORCE.—

12 “(1) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the task
 13 force established under paragraph (3)(B) are—

14 “(A) to assess the reliance of the United
 15 States on the People’s Republic of China, and
 16 other covered countries, for critical minerals,
 17 and the resulting national security risks associ-
 18 ated with that reliance;

19 “(B) to make recommendations to the
 20 President for the implementation of this Act
 21 with regard to critical minerals, including—

22 “(i) the congressional declarations of
 23 policies in section 3; and

1 “(ii) revisions to the program plan of
2 the President and the initiatives required
3 under this section;

4 “(C) to make recommendations to secure
5 United States supply chains for critical min-
6 erals;

7 “(D) to make recommendations to reduce
8 the reliance of the United States, and partners
9 and allies of the United States, on critical min-
10 eral supply chains involving covered countries;
11 and

12 “(E) consistent with ongoing efforts of
13 other Federal departments, agencies, and other
14 entities, to facilitate co-operation, coordination,
15 and mutual accountability among each level of
16 the Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and
17 State, local, and territorial governments, on a
18 holistic response to the dependence on covered
19 countries for critical minerals across the United
20 States.

21 “(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

22 “(A) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
23 GRESS.—The term ‘appropriate committees of
24 Congress’ means—

1 “(i) the Committees on Homeland Se-
 2 curity and Governmental Affairs, Energy
 3 and Natural Resources, Armed Services,
 4 Environment and Public Works, Com-
 5 merce, Science, and Transportation, Fi-
 6 nance, and Foreign Relations of the Sen-
 7 ate; and

8 “(ii) the Committees on Oversight and
 9 Government Reform, Natural Resources,
 10 Armed Services, Ways and Means, Foreign
 11 Affairs, and Energy and Commerce of the
 12 House of Representatives.

13 “(B) CHAIRPERSON; CO-CHAIRPERSON.—
 14 The terms ‘Chairperson’ and ‘Co-Chairperson’,
 15 respectively, mean the Chairperson or Co-Chair-
 16 person of the task force designated by the
 17 President pursuant to paragraph (3)(A).

18 “(C) COVERED COUNTRY.—The term ‘cov-
 19 ered country’ means—

20 “(i) a covered nation (as defined in
 21 section 4872(d) of title 10, United States
 22 Code); and

23 “(ii) any other country determined by
 24 the task force to be a geostrategic compet-

itor or adversary of the United States with respect to critical minerals.

“(D) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term ‘critical mineral’ has the meaning given the term ‘critical material’ in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

“(E) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ‘Indian Tribe’ has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 5304).

“(F) TASK FORCE.—The term ‘task force’ means the task force established under paragraph (3)(B).

“(3) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this subsection, the President shall—

“(A) designate a Chairperson, or 2 individuals as Co-Chairpersons, for the task force, who shall be—

“(i) the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs;

“(ii) the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy; or

“(iii) another relevant member of the Executive Office of the President; and

1 “(B) acting through the Executive Office
2 of the President, establish a task force.

3 “(4) COMPOSITION; MEETINGS.—

4 “(A) APPOINTMENT.—The Chairperson or
5 Co-Chairpersons, in consultation with key inter-
6 governmental, private, and public sector stake-
7 holders, shall appoint to the task force rep-
8 resentatives with expertise in critical mineral
9 supply chains from Federal agencies, including
10 not less than 1 representative from each of—

11 “(i) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

12 “(ii) the Bureau of Land Manage-
13 ment;

14 “(iii) the Critical Minerals Sub-
15 committee of the National Science and
16 Technology Council;

17 “(iv) the Department of Agriculture;

18 “(v) the Department of Commerce;

19 “(vi) the Department of Defense;

20 “(vii) the Department of Energy;

21 “(viii) the Department of Homeland
22 Security;

23 “(ix) the Department of the Interior;

24 “(x) the Department of Labor;

25 “(xi) the Department of State;

- 1 “(xii) the Department of Transpor-
2 tation;
3 “(xiii) the Environmental Protection
4 Agency;
5 “(xiv) the Export-Import Bank of the
6 United States;
7 “(xv) the Forest Service;
8 “(xvi) the General Services Adminis-
9 tration;
10 “(xvii) the National Economic Coun-
11 cil;
12 “(xviii) the National Science Founda-
13 tion;
14 “(xix) the National Security Council;
15 “(xx) the Office of Management and
16 Budget;
17 “(xxi) the Office of the United States
18 Trade Representative;
19 “(xxii) the United States Inter-
20 national Development Finance Corpora-
21 tion;
22 “(xxiii) the United States Geological
23 Survey; and

1 “(xxiv) any other relevant Federal en-
 2 tity, as determined by the Chairperson or
 3 Co-Chairpersons.

4 “(B) CONSULTATION.—The task force
 5 shall consult individuals with expertise in crit-
 6 ical mineral supply chains, individuals from
 7 States whose communities, businesses, and in-
 8 dustries are involved in aspects of critical min-
 9 eral supply chains, including mining and proc-
 10 essing operations, and individuals from a di-
 11 verse and balanced cross-section of—

12 “(i) intergovernmental consultees, in-
 13 cluding—

14 “(I) State governments;

15 “(II) local governments;

16 “(III) territorial governments;

17 and

18 “(IV) Indian Tribes; and

19 “(ii) other stakeholders, including—

20 “(I) academic research institu-
 21 tions;

22 “(II) corporations;

23 “(III) nonprofit organizations;

24 “(IV) private sector stakeholders;

25 “(V) trade associations;

1 “(VI) mining industry stake-
2 holders; and

3 “(VII) labor representatives.

4 “(C) MEETINGS.—

5 “(i) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later
6 than 90 days after the date on which all
7 representatives of the task force have been
8 appointed, the task force shall hold the
9 first meeting of the task force.

10 “(ii) FREQUENCY.—The task force
11 shall meet not less than once every 90
12 days.

13 “(5) DUTIES.—

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The duties of the task
15 force shall include—

16 “(i) facilitating co-operation, coordina-
17 tion, and mutual accountability for the
18 Federal Government, Indian Tribes, and
19 State, local, and territorial governments to
20 enhance data sharing and transparency to
21 build more robust and secure domestic
22 supply chains for critical minerals in sup-
23 port of the purposes described in para-
24 graph (1);

1 “(ii) providing recommendations with
2 respect to—

3 “(I) increasing capacities for
4 mining, exploration, beneficiation,
5 processing, refinement, reuse, and re-
6 cycling of critical minerals in the
7 United States to facilitate the envi-
8 ronmentally responsible production of
9 domestic resources to meet national
10 critical mineral needs, in consultation
11 with Tribal and local communities;

12 “(II) identifying how statutes,
13 regulations, and policies related to the
14 critical mineral supply chain, such as
15 stockpiling and development finance,
16 could be modified to accelerate envi-
17 ronmentally responsible domestic and
18 international production of critical
19 minerals, in consultation with Indian
20 Tribes and local communities;

21 “(III) strengthening the domestic
22 workforce to support growing critical
23 mineral supply chains with good-pay-
24 ing, safe jobs in the United States;

1 “(IV) identifying alternative do-
2 mestic sources to critical minerals
3 that the United States currently relies
4 on the People’s Republic of China or
5 other covered countries for mining,
6 processing, refining, and recycling, in-
7 cluding the availability, capacity, cost,
8 and quality of those domestic alter-
9 natives;

10 “(V) identifying critical minerals
11 and critical mineral supply chains that
12 the United States can onshore, in
13 whole or in part, at a competitive
14 value and quality, for those minerals
15 and supply chains that the United
16 States relies on the People’s Republic
17 of China or other covered countries to
18 provide;

19 “(VI) opportunities for the Fed-
20 eral Government, Indian Tribes, and
21 State, local, and territorial govern-
22 ments to mitigate risks to the national
23 security of the United States with re-
24 spect to supply chains for critical min-
25 erals that the United States currently

1 relies on the People’s Republic of
2 China or other covered countries for
3 mining, processing, refining, and recycling; and
4

5 “(VII) evaluating and integrating
6 the recommendations of the Critical
7 Minerals Subcommittee of the Na-
8 tional Science and Technology Council
9 into the recommendations of the task
10 force;

11 “(iii) prioritizing the recommendations
12 in clause (ii), taking into consideration economic costs and focusing on the critical
13 mineral supply chains with vulnerabilities
14 posing the most significant risks to the na-
15 tional security of the United States;

16 “(iv) recommending specific strate-
17 gies, to be carried out in coordination with
18 the Secretary of State and the Secretary of
19 Commerce, to strengthen international
20 partnerships in furtherance of critical min-
21 erals supply chain security with inter-
22 national allies and partners, including a
23 strategy to collaborate with governments of
24 the allies and partners described in sub-
25

1 paragraph (B) to develop advanced mining,
2 refining, separation and processing tech-
3 nologies; and

4 “(v) other duties, as determined by
5 the Chairperson or Co-Chairpersons.

6 “(B) ALLIES AND PARTNERS.—The allies
7 and partners referred to in subparagraph (A)
8 include—

9 “(i) countries participating in the
10 Quadrilateral Security Dialogue;

11 “(ii) countries that are signatories to
12 the Abraham Accords; and

13 “(iii) countries that are members of
14 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

15 “(C) REPORT.—The Chairperson or Co-
16 Chairpersons shall—

17 “(i) not later than 60 days after the
18 date of enactment of this subsection, and
19 every 60 days thereafter until the require-
20 ments under subsection (a) are satisfied,
21 brief the appropriate committees of Con-
22 gress on the status of the compliance of
23 the President with completing the require-
24 ments under that subsection;

1 “(ii) not later than 2 years after the
2 date of enactment of this subsection, sub-
3 mit to the appropriate committees of Con-
4 gress a report, which shall be submitted in
5 unclassified form, but may include a classi-
6 fied annex, that describes any findings,
7 guidelines, and recommendations created
8 in performing the duties under subpara-
9 graph (A);

10 “(iii) not later than 120 days after
11 the date on which the Chairperson or Co-
12 Chairpersons submits the report under
13 clause (ii), publish that report in the Fed-
14 eral Register, except that the Chairperson
15 or Co-Chairpersons shall redact informa-
16 tion from the report that the Chairperson
17 or Co-Chairpersons determines could pose
18 a risk to the national security of the
19 United States by being publicly available;
20 and

21 “(iv) brief the appropriate committees
22 of Congress twice per year.

23 “(6) DUPLICATION OF EFFORT.—The Chair-
24 person or Co-Chairpersons, to the maximum extent
25 practicable, shall carry out the task force in a man-

ner that does not duplicate the efforts of other Federal departments, agencies, or other entities.

“(7) SUNSET.—The task force shall terminate on the date that is 90 days after the date on which the task force completes the requirements under paragraph (5)(C).

“(8) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated for the purpose of carrying out this subsection.”.

(b) GAO STUDY.—

(1) STUDY REQUIRED.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study examining the Federal and State regulatory landscape related to improving domestic supply chains for critical minerals in the United States.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that describes the results of the study under paragraph (1).

(3) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

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

1 (i) the Committees on Homeland Se-
2 curity and Governmental Affairs, Energy
3 and Natural Resources, Armed Services,
4 Environment and Public Works, Com-
5 merce, Science, and Transportation, Fi-
6 nance, and Foreign Relations of the Sen-
7 ate; and

8 (ii) the Committees on Oversight and
9 Government Reform, Natural Resources,
10 Armed Services, Ways and Means, Foreign
11 Affairs, and Energy and Commerce of the
12 House of Representatives.

13 (B) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term “crit-
14 ical mineral” has the meaning given the term
15 “critical material” in section 7002(a) of the
16 Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

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