

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7037

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## AN ACT

To promote United States and allied energy and mineral security, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

2 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
 3 “Developing Overseas Mineral Investments and New Al-  
 4 lied Networks for Critical Energies Act” or the “DOMI-  
 5 NANCE Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
 7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.  
 Sec. 2. Findings and purpose.  
 Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—MINERALS SECURITY PARTNERSHIP AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. International cooperation to secure critical minerals supply chains.  
 Sec. 102. Minerals Security Partnership authorization.  
 Sec. 103. United States membership in the International Nickel Study Group.  
 Sec. 104. Diplomatic strategy for securing critical minerals.  
 Sec. 105. Mechanism to support critical mineral projects in foreign countries.

TITLE II—ENERGY SECURITY COMPACTS

Sec. 201. Energy Security Compacts.  
 Sec. 202. Office of Energy Security Compacts.  
 Sec. 203. Energy security compact structure.  
 Sec. 204. Energy Security Compacts Council.  
 Sec. 205. Congressional notification.  
 Sec. 206. Government Accountability Office.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 301. Assistant Secretary for Energy Security and Diplomacy.  
 Sec. 302. Bureau of Energy Security and Diplomacy.  
 Sec. 303. Critical Mineral Mining Fellowship Program.  
 Sec. 304. Visiting Mining Scholars Program.  
 Sec. 305. Amendment to the Mutual and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.  
 Sec. 306. Definitions.

8 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

9 (a) FINDINGS.—It is the sense of Congress that—  
 10 (1) the United States is heavily dependent on  
 11 the People’s Republic of China for the production,  
 12 processing, and refinement of many key critical min-  
 13 erals and materials;

1           (2) the Government of the People’s Republic of  
2           China has weaponized its dominance of critical min-  
3           eral production and has intentionally created over-  
4           capacity and sold products at below-market rates in  
5           order to gain market share and move up the value  
6           chain;

7           (3) it is in the economic and national security  
8           interests of the United States to prevent further in-  
9           roads by strategic competitors into key sectors such  
10          as energy infrastructure, critical and rare earth min-  
11          erals, and other supply chains essential to United  
12          States industrial capacity and strategic security;

13          (4) a reliable, resilient, and diversified supply  
14          chain for energy and critical minerals is essential to  
15          meet the defense, manufacturing, technological, and  
16          energy needs of the United States;

17          (5) energy security is a fundamental component  
18          of United States national security, economic sta-  
19          bility, and foreign policy strategy;

20          (6) the United States must utilize available  
21          trade enforcement mechanisms, as well as other ap-  
22          propriate policy tools, to counter coercive economic  
23          practices by strategic competitors and complement  
24          the growth of a robust domestic critical minerals in-  
25          dustry;

1           (7) United States strategic interests are best  
2 served by reducing reliance on adversarial nations  
3 for energy and critical minerals, ensuring reliable  
4 and affordable electricity for industrial and strategic  
5 supply chains, expanding commercial opportunities  
6 for United States energy technologies, and securing  
7 diversified and reliable access to critical minerals for  
8 the United States and allied economies; and

9           (8) Government financing, development, and  
10 diplomatic tools should all be deployed in a manner  
11 that maximizes the mobilization of private capital,  
12 strengthens cooperation with allies and partners,  
13 and advances the statutory objectives of United  
14 States foreign policy, economic development, and na-  
15 tional security—thereby making the United States  
16 safer, stronger, and more prosperous.

17 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to—

18           (1) reduce the dependence of the United States  
19 and partner countries on strategic competitors for  
20 energy, critical minerals, and related technologies;

21           (2) support economic growth and energy-sector  
22 modernization in partner countries through respon-  
23 sible and transparent development of domestic en-  
24 ergy and mineral resources;

1           (3) advance United States national security and  
2 foreign policy objectives through strategic invest-  
3 ments, policy coordination, and expanded coopera-  
4 tion with allies and partners;

5           (4) establish a coordinated interagency mecha-  
6 nism to align United States diplomatic, development,  
7 trade, and financing tools;

8           (5) strengthen the commercial competitiveness  
9 of United States energy and critical mineral compa-  
10 nies in global markets; and

11           (6) secure a diversified and resilient supply and  
12 processing capacity for critical minerals necessary  
13 for United States industry, energy systems, and de-  
14 fense requirements, as well as those of allied and  
15 partner countries.

16 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

17 In this Act:

18           (1) **ALLY; ALLIED COUNTRY.**—The term “ally”  
19 or “allied country” means—

20                   (A) any country described in section  
21 2350a(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code;  
22 and

23                   (B) any member country of an organiza-  
24 tion listed in such section.

1           (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
2           TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
3           mittees” means—

4                   (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the  
5                   Committee on Ways and Means, and the Com-  
6                   mittee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-  
7                   resentatives; and

8                   (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations,  
9                   the Committee on Finance, and the Committee  
10                  on Appropriations of the Senate.

11          (3) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term “Assist-  
12          ant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary for  
13          Energy Security and Diplomacy, as established in  
14          section 301.

15          (4) COUNTRY COMPACT TEAM.—The term  
16          “Country Compact Team” means a dedicated team  
17          formed by the Director for Energy Security Com-  
18          pacts to manage the day-to-day activities related to  
19          the development, negotiation, implementation, and  
20          monitoring of the Energy Security Compacts.

21          (5) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term “critical  
22          mineral” means any mineral on the list of critical  
23          minerals required by section 7002(c)(3) of the En-  
24          ergy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(3)) on or after  
25          January 1, 2026.

1           (6) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”  
2 means the Department of State.

3           (7) PARTNER COUNTRY.—The term “partner  
4 country” means any country eligible for an Energy  
5 Security Compact under title II.

6           (8) PROCESSED.—The term “processed”, with  
7 respect to a critical mineral, means the mineral has  
8 undergone the activities that occur after critical min-  
9 eral ore is extracted from a mine up through its con-  
10 version into a metal, metal powder, or a master  
11 alloy.

12           (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
13 the Secretary of State.

14           (10) UNDER SECRETARY.—The term “Under  
15 Secretary” means the Under Secretary for Economic  
16 Affairs.

17       **TITLE I—MINERALS SECURITY**  
18       **PARTNERSHIP AUTHORIZATION**

19       **SEC. 101. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO SECURE CRIT-**  
20               **ICAL MINERALS SUPPLY CHAINS.**

21           (a) STATEMENT OF POLICY ON CRITICAL MINERAL  
22 SUPPLY CHAINS.—It is the policy of the United States—

23               (1) to collaborate with allies and partners of the  
24 United States to build secure and resilient critical  
25 mineral supply chains, including in the mining, proc-

1       essing, reclamation and recycling, and valuation of  
2       critical minerals, as well as with respect to advanced  
3       manufacturing that includes critical minerals;

4               (2) to prioritize the development and production  
5       of critical minerals domestically, including both to  
6       supply domestic needs and for export to allies and  
7       partners that participate in secure and resilient sup-  
8       ply chains for critical minerals;

9               (3) to reduce or eliminate reliance on critical  
10       mineral supply chains controlled by the People’s Re-  
11       public of China, the Russian Federation, Iran, or  
12       any other strategic competitor to the United States;

13              (4) to work with allies and partners on enhanc-  
14       ing evaluation capability, tracing, and technology in  
15       trusted countries that produce critical minerals to  
16       avoid the export of mined and processed critical min-  
17       erals to adversaries of the United States;

18              (5) to identify and implement market-based in-  
19       centives for the purposes of facilitating the creation  
20       and maintenance of secure and resilient critical min-  
21       eral supply chains, including for reclamation and re-  
22       cycling of critical mineral resources from waste  
23       streams, in collaboration with allies and partners;

24              (6) to prioritize securing critical mineral supply  
25       chains in the United States foreign policy, including

1 through the use of economic tools to invest responsi-  
2 bility in beneficiation and value-adding projects in  
3 partner countries in a manner that both benefits  
4 local populations and bolsters the supply of critical  
5 minerals to the United States;

6 (7) to work with allies and partners to address  
7 the distortive effects of predatory economic, pricing,  
8 and market manipulation practices used by the Peo-  
9 ple’s Republic of China the Russian Federation,  
10 Iran, or any other strategic competitor of the United  
11 States;

12 (8) to coordinate policy tools and investments  
13 with allies and partners to accelerate the develop-  
14 ment of transparent, traceable, diversified, and fair  
15 markets for critical minerals and rare earths; and

16 (9) that collaboration with allies and partners  
17 to build secure and resilient critical mineral supply  
18 chains shall not replace United States efforts to in-  
19 crease domestic development and production or recy-  
20 cling of critical minerals.

21 (b) INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO  
22 PROTECTING CRITICAL MINERAL SUPPLY CHAINS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—The President may negotiate  
24 an agreement with the governments of foreign coun-  
25 tries for the purposes of establishing a coalition to—

1 (A) facilitate the transparent mining, proc-  
2 essing, supply, and procurement of critical min-  
3 erals;

4 (B) facilitate advanced manufacturing that  
5 includes critical minerals; and

6 (C) secure an adequate supply of critical  
7 minerals and relevant products, manufacturing  
8 inputs, and components that are heavily de-  
9 pendent on critical mineral resources for the  
10 United States and other members of the coal-  
11 ition (in this title referred to as “member coun-  
12 tries”).

13 (2) NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES.—The overall  
14 objectives for negotiating an agreement described in  
15 paragraph (1) shall be—

16 (A) to establish mechanisms for member  
17 countries to build secure, resilient, and trans-  
18 parent supply chains for critical minerals, in-  
19 cluding in—

20 (i) the mining, refinement, processing,  
21 and valuation of critical minerals; and

22 (ii) advanced manufacturing of prod-  
23 ucts, components, and materials that are  
24 dependent on critical minerals;

1 (B) to improve economies of scale and  
2 joint cooperation with international partners in  
3 securing access to and means of production  
4 throughout the supply chains of critical min-  
5 erals and manufacturing processes dependent  
6 on critical minerals;

7 (C) to establish mechanisms, with appro-  
8 priate market-based disciplines, that provide  
9 and maintain opportunities among member  
10 countries for creating industry economies of  
11 scale to attract joint investment among member  
12 countries, including—

13 (i) cooperation on joint projects, in-  
14 cluding cost-sharing on building appro-  
15 priate infrastructure to access deposits of  
16 critical minerals; and

17 (ii) creation or enhancement of na-  
18 tional and international programs to sup-  
19 port the development of robust industries  
20 by providing appropriate sector-specific in-  
21 centives, such as political risk and other  
22 insurance opportunities, financing, and  
23 other support, for—

24 (I) transparent mining and proc-  
25 essing of critical minerals;

1                   (II) manufacturing of products,  
2                   components, and materials that are  
3                   dependent on critical minerals and are  
4                   essential to consumer technology  
5                   products or have important national  
6                   security implications; and

7                   (III) associated transportation  
8                   needs that are tailored to the han-  
9                   dling, movement, and logistics man-  
10                  agement of critical minerals and prod-  
11                  ucts, components, and materials that  
12                  are dependent on critical minerals;

13                  (D) to establish market-based rules for  
14                  member countries regarding adoption of quali-  
15                  fying tax and other incentives to stimulate in-  
16                  vestment to ensure a fair playing field among  
17                  member countries;

18                  (E) to establish recommended best prac-  
19                  tices to protect—

20                         (i) labor rights;

21                         (ii) the natural environment and eco-  
22                         systems near critical mineral industrial  
23                         sites;

1 (iii) the safety of communities near  
2 critical mineral industrial activities  
3 through consultation; and

4 (iv) supply chain diversity;

5 (F) to advance economic growth in devel-  
6 oping countries with critical mineral reserves,  
7 including for the benefit of the citizens of such  
8 countries;

9 (G) to establish rules allowing for the es-  
10 tablishment of a consortium that is resourced  
11 and empowered to bid and compete in acquiring  
12 and securing potential deposits of critical min-  
13 erals in countries that are not member coun-  
14 tries;

15 (H) to establish a mechanism for joint re-  
16 source mapping with procedures for equitable  
17 sharing of information on potential deposits of  
18 critical minerals not less frequently than annu-  
19 ally;

20 (I) to establish appropriate mechanisms for  
21 the recognition and enforcement by a member  
22 country of judgements relating to environmental  
23 and related harms caused by mining operations  
24 within such member country in contravention of  
25 the laws of such country; and



1           (1) To identify and support investment and ad-  
2           vocate for commercial and military use critical min-  
3           eral mining, processing, and refining projects that  
4           enable robust, secure, and transparent critical min-  
5           eral supply chains, in consultation with the other  
6           Federal agencies, as appropriate.

7           (2) To coordinate with relevant regional bu-  
8           reaus to develop regional diplomatic engagement  
9           strategies related to critical minerals projects and to  
10          identify projects that are priorities.

11          (3) To coordinate with United States missions  
12          abroad on projects, programs, and investments that  
13          enable robust and secure critical mineral supply  
14          chains.

15          (4) To coordinate with current and prospective  
16          members of the Minerals Security Partnership.

17          (5) To establish a mechanism for information-  
18          sharing with members of the Minerals Security Part-  
19          nership.

20          (6) To establish policies and procedures, and if  
21          necessary, to provide funding to facilitate coopera-  
22          tion on joint projects with members of the Minerals  
23          Security Partnership and any related organizations  
24          established by the Minerals Security Partnership (in-  
25          cluding the Mineral Security Partnership Forum),

1 including those related to cost-sharing agreements,  
2 political risk insurance, financing, equity invest-  
3 ments, pricing mechanisms, procurement, and other  
4 support, in coordination with other Federal agencies,  
5 as appropriate.

6 (7) To coordinate with Development Finance  
7 Institutions, Export Credit Agencies, multilateral  
8 banks, and private banks headquartered in Minerals  
9 Security Partnership member countries to promote  
10 information exchange and co-financing through the  
11 Minerals Security Partnership Finance Network.

12 (8) To identify individuals within the Bureau of  
13 Energy Security and Diplomacy to monitor and co-  
14 ordinate responses to trade measures or policies that  
15 may adversely affect United States and allied coun-  
16 try supplies of critical minerals or investments in  
17 third-country critical mineral markets, especially in-  
18 vestments supported by the Minerals Security Part-  
19 nership.

20 (9) To establish procedures to prevent, review,  
21 and deter critical mineral asset sales to prohibited  
22 foreign entities (as such term is defined in section  
23 7701 of the Internal Revenue Code) by companies  
24 within the jurisdiction of Minerals Security Partner-

1 ship and Minerals Security Partnership Forum  
2 member countries.

3 (10) To establish a framework for the trans-  
4 parent evaluation of member countries' compliance  
5 and effectiveness in fulfilling the purposes listed in  
6 paragraphs (1) through (9) of this section.

7 (11) To identify and recommend priority coun-  
8 tries for future engagement, including through an  
9 Energy Security Compact described in section 201  
10 or any other relevant alliance between the United  
11 States and a foreign country related to securing and  
12 diversifying critical mineral supply chains.

13 (b) DATABASE.—As part of the Minerals Security  
14 Partnership, the Secretary, acting through the Under Sec-  
15 retary, may establish and maintain a database of critical  
16 mineral projects for the purpose of providing high quality  
17 and up-to-date information to the private sector in order  
18 to spur greater investment, increase the resilience of global  
19 critical minerals supply chains, and boost United States  
20 supply of critical minerals.

21 (c) EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH THE MIN-  
22 ERALS SECURITY PARTNERSHIP.—

23 (1) PROCEDURE.—The Secretary, acting  
24 through the Under Secretary, shall develop a proce-  
25 dure for the collection, handling, and transmission of

1 commercial information or data that is provided by  
2 other Federal departments and agencies and trans-  
3 mitted to members of the Minerals Security Partner-  
4 ship.

5 (2) LIMITATIONS.—The procedure required in  
6 paragraph (1) shall include the following limitations:

7 (A) Any information or data which is geo-  
8 logical or geophysical information or a trade se-  
9 cret or commercial or financial information  
10 shall, prior to transmittal, be aggregated, accu-  
11 mulated, or otherwise reported in such a man-  
12 ner as to avoid, to the fullest extent feasible,  
13 identification of any person from whom the  
14 United States obtained such information.

15 (B) The limitations on disclosure described  
16 in the following:

17 (i) section 11(d) of the Energy Supply  
18 and Environmental Coordination Act of  
19 1974 (15 U.S.C. 796(d));

20 (ii) section 14(b) of the Federal En-  
21 ergy Administration Act of 1974 (15  
22 U.S.C. 773(b));

23 (iii) section 9 of title 13, United  
24 States Code;

1 (iv) the first section of the Act of Jan-  
2 uary 27, 1938, entitled “An Act to make  
3 confidential certain information furnished  
4 to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic  
5 Commerce, and for other purposes” (15  
6 U.S.C. 176a);

7 (v) section 1905 of title 18, United  
8 States Code; and

9 (vi) section 252 of the Energy Policy  
10 and Conservation Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C.  
11 6274).

12 (3) EXCEPTIONS.—

13 (A) INTERNATIONAL ENERGY EMER-  
14 GENCY.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the  
15 Secretary may make any information or data  
16 available to members of the Minerals Security  
17 Partnership during an international energy sup-  
18 ply emergency.

19 (B) PRESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATION.—Not-  
20 withstanding paragraph (2), the Secretary may  
21 make any information or data available to  
22 members of the Minerals Security Partnership  
23 if the President certifies, after opportunity for  
24 presentation of views by interested persons,  
25 that the Minerals Security Partnership has

1           adopted and is implementing security measures  
2           such that such information or data will not be  
3           disclosed by member countries of the Minerals  
4           Security Partnership or the agencies or employ-  
5           ees of such countries to any person or foreign  
6           country without having been aggregated, accu-  
7           mulated, or otherwise reported in such manner  
8           as to avoid identification of any person from  
9           whom the United States obtained such informa-  
10          tion or data.

11          (d) MINERAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP STAFF.—The  
12          Secretary shall prioritize staffing the Mineral Security  
13          Partnership with individuals who have the following quali-  
14          fications:

15               (1) Substantive knowledge and experience in  
16               issues related to critical minerals supply chains and  
17               the application of such supply chains to strategic in-  
18               dustries, including in the defense, energy, and tech-  
19               nology sectors.

20               (2) Substantive knowledge and experience in  
21               large-scale multi-donor project financing and related  
22               technical and diplomatic arrangements, international  
23               coalition-building, development finance, and project  
24               management.

1           (3) Substantive knowledge and experience in  
2           trade and foreign policy, defense-industrial base pol-  
3           icy, or national security-sensitive supply chain  
4           issues.

5           (e) PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY COORDINA-  
6           TION.—The Secretary, acting through the Under Sec-  
7           retary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environ-  
8           ment, shall ensure close coordination between the Depart-  
9           ment, the private sector, and relevant civil society groups  
10          regarding the implementation of this section.

11          (f) PROJECT SELECTION.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—The United States, through  
13           participation in the Minerals Security Partnership,  
14           shall prioritize projects that advance the national  
15           and economic security interests of the United States  
16           and allies and partners of the United States.

17           (2) CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS.—The United  
18           States shall advocate for the Minerals Security Part-  
19           nership to use environmental, societal, and govern-  
20           ance standards, including as criteria for project se-  
21           lection, that are consistent with United States law or  
22           international agreements approved by Congress.

23           (3) PRIVATE SECTOR COLLABORATION.—The  
24           Department shall coordinate with the private sector  
25           to leverage expertise and ensure projects supported

1 by the Minerals Security Partnership are catalyzed  
2 by private sector investments and commercial  
3 offtake, with priority to the United States, through  
4 the Minerals Investment Network for Vital Energy  
5 Security and Transformation (commonly known as  
6 “MINVEST”).

7 **SEC. 103. UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTER-**  
8 **NATIONAL NICKEL STUDY GROUP.**

9 (a) UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP.—The President  
10 may accept the Terms of Reference of and maintain mem-  
11 bership of the United States in the International Nickel  
12 Study Group.

13 (b) PAYMENTS OF ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS.—For  
14 fiscal year 2026 and each fiscal year thereafter, the  
15 United States assessed contributions to the International  
16 Nickel Study Group may be paid from amounts authorized  
17 to be appropriated under section 8 of the United Nations  
18 Participation Act of 1945 (22 U.S.C. 287e).

19 **SEC. 104. DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY FOR SECURING CRITICAL**  
20 **MINERALS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
22 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in con-  
23 sultation with the heads of other relevant Federal agen-  
24 cies, shall develop a strategy for securing the supply  
25 chains of a diverse set of critical minerals.

1 (b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required by subsection  
2 shall—

3 (1) include—

4 (A) a review of the roles and responsibil-  
5 ities of offices and positions within the Depart-  
6 ment engaged, as of the date of the enactment  
7 of this Act, in efforts to secure critical mineral  
8 supply chains; and

9 (B) processes to ensure that such offices  
10 coordinate and deconflict such efforts;

11 (2) leverage use of United States financial,  
12 commercial, and development assistance tools and  
13 resources to advance the critical mineral policies of  
14 the United States;

15 (3) include targeted engagement plans for both  
16 countries that are allies or partners of the United  
17 States and countries with significant proven or esti-  
18 mated deposits of critical minerals or processing ca-  
19 pacity for minerals critical to national security inter-  
20 ests;

21 (4) provide for coordination with relevant Fed-  
22 eral agencies to align trade policies to address both  
23 price volatility and incentivize the sourcing of critical  
24 minerals from trusted suppliers;

1           (5) strengthen collaboration with countries that  
2           are allies and partners of the United States, and le-  
3           verage the leadership role of the United States in  
4           multilateral institutions engaged on critical mineral  
5           issues to shape international standards;

6           (6) extend the diplomatic and commercial advo-  
7           cacy support of the United States to private sector  
8           entities throughout critical mineral supply chains;  
9           and

10          (7) facilitate coordination with countries that  
11          are allies and partners of the United States to—

12                 (A) identify best practices and develop co-  
13                 ordinated standards for critical mineral  
14                 projects;

15                 (B) protect against inhumane labor prac-  
16                 tices; and

17                 (C) minimize adverse environmental and  
18                 social impacts from the critical minerals supply  
19                 chain.

20          (c) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than 210 days  
21          after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall  
22          provide a briefing on the strategy developed under sub-  
23          section (a) to—



1       **TITLE II—ENERGY SECURITY**  
2                                   **COMPACTS**

3   **SEC. 201. ENERGY SECURITY COMPACTS.**

4           (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF TRANSFERS.**—The Secretary  
5 is authorized to transfer funds authorized to be appro-  
6 priated for the operation of National Security Investment  
7 Programs for the purpose of establishing multiyear agree-  
8 ments (to be known as “Energy Security Pacts”) with  
9 partner countries to enhance the energy and economic se-  
10 curity and stability of the United States and such partner  
11 countries, including through efforts to counter economic  
12 coercion through the diversification of critical mineral and  
13 energy supply chains.

14          (b) **TRANSFERS.**—Amounts made available pursuant  
15 to subsection (a) may be transferred to and merged with  
16 amounts authorized to be appropriated for fiscal year  
17 2027 or any fiscal year thereafter for the United States  
18 Trade and Development Agency, Millennium Challenge  
19 Corporation, United States International Development Fi-  
20 nance Corporation, or the Export-Import Bank of the  
21 United States.

22          (c) **CONSULTATION AND NOTIFICATION.**—The trans-  
23 fer authority provided by this section is in addition to any  
24 other transfer authority provided by law, and is subject  
25 to—

1 (1) prior consultation with—

2 (A) the Committee on Appropriations and  
3 the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House  
4 of Representatives; and

5 (B) the Committee on Appropriations and  
6 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-  
7 ate; and

8 (2) the regular notification procedures of such  
9 committees.

10 (d) ASSISTANCE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IM-  
11 PLEMENTATION OF COMPACTS.—The Director for Energy  
12 Security Compacts may—

13 (1) enter into contracts for required technical  
14 support related to Energy Security Compacts;

15 (2) make grants to any partner country for the  
16 purpose of building the administrative or technical  
17 capacity necessary to facilitate the development and  
18 implementation of an Energy Security Compact be-  
19 tween the United States and such country; and

20 (3) form Country Compact Teams with a des-  
21 ignated lead, who will regularly engage with the  
22 Council, to carry out the implementation of the  
23 Compact.

24 (e) LIMITATIONS.—

1           (1) PROHIBITION ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE  
2           AND TRAINING.—Assistance under this section may  
3           not include military assistance or military training  
4           for a country.

5           (2) PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE RELATING TO  
6           UNITED STATES JOB LOSS OR PRODUCTION DIS-  
7           PLACEMENT.—Assistance under this section may not  
8           be provided for any project that is likely to cause a  
9           substantial loss of United States jobs or a substan-  
10          tial displacement of United States production.

11          (3) PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE RELATING TO  
12          ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH, OR SAFETY HAZARDS.—  
13          Assistance under this section may not be provided  
14          for any project that is likely to cause a significant,  
15          unmitigable environmental, health, or safety hazard.

16          (4) FOREIGN AID TRANSPARENCY AND AC-  
17          COUNTABILITY ACT COMPLIANCE.—None of the  
18          funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise  
19          made available by this Act may be obligated or ex-  
20          pended for an Energy Security Compact unless the  
21          compact and all associated activities comply with the  
22          monitoring, evaluation, performance measurement,  
23          and public reporting requirements of section 4 of the  
24          Foreign Aid Transparency and Accountability Act of  
25          2016 (22 U.S.C. 2394e).

1           (5) LIMITATION RELATING TO THE PRESIDENT  
2           AND VICE PRESIDENT.—None of the funds author-  
3           ized to be appropriated or otherwise made available  
4           by this Act may be obligated or expended to provide  
5           any grant, contract, loan, or other financial assist-  
6           ance to an entity in which the President, the Vice  
7           President, or an immediate family member (as such  
8           term is defined in section 1128(j) of the Social Secu-  
9           rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–7(j))) of the President or  
10          Vice President holds, directly or indirectly, any own-  
11          ership interest or serves in any managerial, officer,  
12          director, or board capacity.

13          (f) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not less frequently than  
14          annually until the date that is five years after the date  
15          of the enactment of this Act, the Director for Energy Se-  
16          curity Compacts shall submit to the appropriate congres-  
17          sional committees, the Executive Office of the President,  
18          the National Security Council, and the Secretary a report  
19          describing—

20                 (1) the current status of activities authorized  
21                 under this title;

22                 (2) any obstacles to the implementation of such  
23                 activities; and

24                 (3) any updates to the multiyear financial plan  
25                 developed pursuant to section 203(c)(6).

1 **SEC. 202. OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY COMPACTS.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish  
3 an Office of Energy Security Compacts, which shall per-  
4 form such functions related to the administration and im-  
5 plementation of the Energy Security Compacts described  
6 in section 201 as the Assistant Secretary may prescribe.

7 (b) DIRECTOR FOR ENERGY SECURITY COMPACT.—  
8 The Office of Energy Security shall be led by a Director  
9 for Energy Security Compacts who shall be responsible to  
10 the Assistant Secretary for all matters pertaining to the  
11 administration and implementation of the Energy Security  
12 Compacts described under section 201 and such other re-  
13 lated duties as the Secretary may from time to time des-  
14 ignate.

15 (c) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the respon-  
16 sibilities described under subsection (a), the Director for  
17 Energy Security Compacts shall be responsible for sup-  
18 porting the Department’s participation in and leadership  
19 of the Economic Resilience Initiative and the Energy Se-  
20 curity Compacts Council, including for all matters per-  
21 taining to the following:

22 (1) Drafting the contribution of the Secretary  
23 to the strategy identified in section 7030(d) of the  
24 Further Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2024  
25 (Public Law 119–37).

1           (2) Leading the development, negotiation, and  
2 management of all Energy Security Compacts fund-  
3 ed through the Economic Resilience Initiative.

4           (3) Consulting and coordinating with agencies  
5 and departments that are members of the Energy  
6 Security Council to develop prospective Energy Se-  
7 curity Compacts and implement ongoing Energy Se-  
8 curity Compacts, as appropriate.

9           (4) Serving as the recipient for—

10                 (A) solicited proposals under the Energy  
11 Security Compact; and

12                 (B) unsolicited proposals for projects to be  
13 considered for inclusion in any Energy Security  
14 Compact by national, regional, and local gov-  
15 ernments and private corporations.

16           (5) Signing joint agency agreements, transfer-  
17 ring or receiving appropriated funds with any de-  
18 partment, agency, or independent establishment of  
19 the United States Government (with the consent of  
20 the head of such department, agency, or establish-  
21 ment) for the purpose of developing, implementing,  
22 or otherwise participating in an Energy Security  
23 Compact described under section 301, including for  
24 the use as credit subsidy.

1           (6) Coordinating with other donor entities, in-  
2           cluding countries that are allies and partners of the  
3           United States, the Minerals Security Partnership,  
4           and other multilateral fora, for the purposes of  
5           deconflicting, augmenting, and leveraging, where ap-  
6           propriate, Energy Security Compact workplans with  
7           the development and financing activities performed  
8           by others.

9           (d) PERSONNEL.—The Director for Energy Security  
10          Compacts may—

11           (1) detail staff to a collaborating agency head  
12           with relevant sectoral, financial, or regional expertise  
13           for the negotiation or implementation of an Energy  
14           Security Compact;

15           (2) request core agency heads and collaborating  
16           agency heads detail personnel to the Office of En-  
17           ergy Security Compacts with relevant sectoral, finan-  
18           cial, or regional expertise for the negotiation or im-  
19           plementation of an Energy Security Compact; and

20           (3) appoint, without regard to the provisions of  
21           sections 3309 through 3318 of title 5, United States  
22           Code, candidates directly to positions in the competi-  
23           tive service, as defined in section 2102 of that title.

1 (e) TERMINATION.—The authority provided under  
2 this section shall terminate on the date that is 10 years  
3 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

4 (f) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Under Secretary for Eco-  
6 nomic Affairs shall submit to the appropriate congres-  
7 sional committees a report that contains plans to attract  
8 and retain diplomatic, policy, legal, and technical expertise  
9 for civil service officers in the Office of Energy Security  
10 Compacts, including career promotion tracks to super-  
11 visory and non-supervisory GS–15 positions.

12 **SEC. 203. ENERGY SECURITY COMPACT STRUCTURE.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Each Energy Security Compact  
14 should increase reliable access to energy, electricity, or  
15 critical minerals for both parties to the Energy Security  
16 Compact, for the purpose of stimulating economic growth,  
17 enabling follow-on private sector investment, supporting  
18 the commercial competitiveness of United States compa-  
19 nies, or diversifying relevant supply chains.

20 (b) PRIOR ANALYSIS REQUIRED.—Before estab-  
21 lishing an Energy Security Compact, the Office of Energy  
22 Security Compacts, in collaboration with the Energy Secu-  
23 rity Compact Council, shall conduct a constraints analysis  
24 of the energy sector and supply-chain segments needed to  
25 strengthen the partner country’s energy security, con-

1 sistent with United States energy security risks and com-  
2 mercial opportunities.

3 (c) ENERGY SECURITY COMPACT ELEMENTS.—Each  
4 Energy Security Compact shall contain—

5 (1) a constraints analysis of the energy sector  
6 which identifies insufficiencies in the energy sector  
7 and supply-chain segments needed to ensure the  
8 partner country’s energy security, consistent with  
9 United States energy security risks and commercial  
10 opportunities;

11 (2) specific objectives that the partner country  
12 and the United States expect to achieve during the  
13 term of the Energy Security Compact, including—

14 (A) increased energy production, reliability,  
15 and affordability in the partner country;

16 (B) economic growth in the partner coun-  
17 try that may reduce the need for foreign assist-  
18 ance;

19 (C) improved access to energy, in consulta-  
20 tion with affected communities and civil society;  
21 and

22 (D) improved infrastructure that enables  
23 access to critical minerals mining and proc-  
24 essing;

1           (3) the responsibilities of the partner country  
2           and the United States in the achievement of such  
3           objectives;

4           (4) regular quantitative benchmarks to meas-  
5           ure, where appropriate, progress toward achieving  
6           such objectives;

7           (5) an identification of the intended impact of  
8           the activities carried out in accordance with the En-  
9           ergy Security Compact;

10          (6) a multiyear financial plan, updated annually  
11          until the expiration of the term of the Energy Secu-  
12          rity Compact, that—

13                 (A) estimates the amount of contributions,  
14                 commitments, and other participation to be pro-  
15                 vided by the Department, Core Agencies, Col-  
16                 laborating Agencies, the partner country, and  
17                 other entities;

18                 (B) ensures compacts with low-income  
19                 countries incorporate and are complementary to  
20                 development programs administered by other  
21                 United States agencies and departments, so  
22                 that United States funds are used to improve  
23                 feasibility for private sector investment to fur-  
24                 ther development goals;

1 (C) identifies proposed mechanisms to im-  
2 plement the plan and provide oversight of the  
3 plan; and

4 (D) describes how the requirements de-  
5 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (5) will be  
6 met, including the role of the private sector in  
7 the achievement of such requirements;

8 (7) as appropriate, a description of the current  
9 and potential participation of other donors, including  
10 countries that are allies and partners of the United  
11 States or collaborating agencies in the achievement  
12 of such objectives;

13 (8) a description of how oversight and trans-  
14 parency of the foreign assistance provided through  
15 the Economic Resilience Initiative will be main-  
16 tained;

17 (9) as appropriate, a process or processes for  
18 considering—

19 (A) solicited proposals under the Energy  
20 Security Compact; and

21 (B) unsolicited proposals by national, re-  
22 gional, and local units of government and pri-  
23 vate corporations;

24 (10) a requirement that open, fair, competitive,  
25 and transparent procedures are used in the adminis-

1       tration of grants or cooperative agreements or the  
2       procurement of goods and services for the accom-  
3       plishment of objectives under the Energy Security  
4       Compact;

5               (11) the strategy of the partner country to sus-  
6       tain progress made toward achieving such objectives  
7       after expiration of the Energy Security Compact;

8               (12) a description of the role of both core and  
9       collaborating agencies in any design, implementa-  
10      tion, and monitoring of programs and activities  
11      funded through the Energy Security Compact; and

12              (13) a description of any contribution, as ap-  
13      propriate, from the partner country relative to its  
14      national budget and taking into account the pre-  
15      vailing economic conditions, toward meeting the ob-  
16      jectives of the Energy Security Compact.

17      (d) ELIGIBILITY.—A country shall be considered eli-  
18      gible for support under this section if—

19              (1) the per capita income of the country is not  
20      greater than the World Bank loan threshold or the  
21      country is eligible for support from the International  
22      Bank for Reconstruction and Development or the  
23      International Development Association graduation  
24      process at the beginning of the year in which nego-  
25      tiations are initiated;

1           (2) the country has been identified as strategi-  
2 cally or commercially important for the United  
3 States by the Director for Energy Security Com-  
4 pacts, Secretary, a member of the National Security  
5 Council, or the President;

6           (3) the Assistant Secretary determines that the  
7 country has the capacity and commitment to imple-  
8 ment the Energy Security Compact; and

9           (4) the country is not a foreign country of con-  
10 cern, as such term is defined in section 10612(a) of  
11 Public Law 117–167 (42 U.S.C. 19221(a)).

12       (e) PROHIBITION ON TAXATION.—In addition to the  
13 elements described in subsection (c), each Energy Security  
14 Compact shall contain a provision stating that assistance  
15 provided by the United States under the Energy Security  
16 Compact shall be exempt from taxation by the government  
17 of the partner country.

18       (f) APPROVAL.—Each Energy Security Compact  
19 shall be recommended by the Director for Energy Security  
20 Compacts and approved by the Secretary before the  
21 United States enters into such an Energy Security Com-  
22 pact.

23       (g) DURATION.—The duration of each Energy Secu-  
24 rity Compact may not exceed 10 years.

1 (h) SUBSEQUENT AND CONCURRENT COMPACTS.—A  
2 partner country that has entered into, and has in effect,  
3 an Energy Security Compact under this section may enter  
4 into, and concurrently have in effect, additional Energy  
5 Security Compacts.

6 (i) REPORT REGARDING INCREASE OR EXTENSION  
7 OF ASSISTANCE.—Not later than 15 days after making  
8 a determination to increase or extend assistance under an  
9 Energy Security Compact with a partner country, the Sec-  
10 retary, acting through the Director for Energy Security  
11 Compacts, shall submit to the appropriate congressional  
12 committees a written report that contains—

- 13 (1) a justification for such a determination;
- 14 (2) a detailed summary of the proposed in-  
15 crease in, or extension of, assistance under the En-  
16 ergy Security Compact; and
- 17 (3) a copy of the full text of the amendment to  
18 the Energy Security Compact.

19 **SEC. 204. ENERGY SECURITY COMPACTS COUNCIL.**

20 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after  
21 the date of enactment of this Act, the President should  
22 establish an Energy Security Compacts Council (in this  
23 title referred to as “the Council”) to coordinate and imple-  
24 ment the Energy Security Compacts identified in this sec-  
25 tion.

1 (b) COMPOSITION.—The Council shall be chaired by  
2 the Secretary and be composed of principal officers of ex-  
3 ecutive departments from the following agencies:

4 (1) The United States International Develop-  
5 ment Finance Corporation.

6 (2) The Department of Energy.

7 (3) The United States Trade and Development  
8 Agency.

9 (4) The Export-Import Bank of the United  
10 States.

11 (5) The Department of Commerce.

12 (6) The United States Trade Representative.

13 (7) The Department of Defense.

14 (8) The Department.

15 (9) The Department of the Interior.

16 (10) Any other Federal agency or organization  
17 that the President determines to be appropriate.

18 (c) VACANCIES.—Where there is a vacancy in the of-  
19 fice of a principal officer of an executive department, the  
20 individual acting in that capacity shall serve as a member  
21 of the Council until a new principal officer of the executive  
22 department is appointed.

23 (d) DELEGATION.—The principal officer of an execu-  
24 tive department may delegate a senior official (as de-  
25 scribed in section 1(d) of the State Department Basic Au-

1 thorities Act of 1956 (22 U.S.C. 2651a(d))) to serve on  
2 the Council, as appropriate.

3 (e) DUTIES.—The Council shall—

4 (1) meet not less frequently than quarterly;

5 (2) coordinate Energy Security Compact-related  
6 activities of the core and collaborating agencies;

7 (3) make annual recommendations to the Direc-  
8 tor for Energy Security Compacts, taking into ac-  
9 count the stated priorities of the National Security  
10 Council and the President, regarding the  
11 prioritization of eligible countries for Energy Secu-  
12 rity Compact negotiation; and

13 (4) make recommendations to improve inter-  
14 agency collaboration for the purposes of promoting  
15 energy security and United States national security  
16 interests abroad.

17 (f) SUNSHINE ACT COMPLIANCE.—Meetings of the  
18 Council are subject to section 5532b of title 5, United  
19 States Code (commonly referred to as the “Government  
20 in the Sunshine Act”).

21 **SEC. 205. CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION.**

22 Not later than 30 days before entering into an En-  
23 ergy Security Compact, the Director for Energy Security  
24 Compacts shall—

1 (1) notify and consult with the appropriate con-  
2 gressional committees regarding such Compact;

3 (2) transmit to the appropriate congressional  
4 committees the text of such Compact; and

5 (3) provide to the appropriate congressional  
6 committees an in-person briefing regarding such  
7 Compact.

8 **SEC. 206. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE.**

9 The Government Accountability Office shall, not later  
10 than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act  
11 and annually thereafter, submit to Congress an evaluation  
12 of the efficiency and development impact of projects sup-  
13 ported by an Energy Security Compact.

14 **TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF**  
15 **STATE AUTHORIZATIONS**

16 **SEC. 301. ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ENERGY SECURITY**  
17 **AND DIPLOMACY.**

18 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be in  
19 the Department an Assistant Secretary for Energy Secu-  
20 rity and Diplomacy who shall be responsible to the Under  
21 Secretary for Economic Affairs for all matters pertaining  
22 to the formulation and implementation of international en-  
23 ergy, energy technology, critical minerals, and relevant  
24 supply chain policies in the conduct of foreign policy by  
25 the Department, including, as appropriate, to protect

1 United States energy security interests, lead the coordina-  
2 tion of energy programs carried out by United States Gov-  
3 ernment agencies abroad, and such other related duties  
4 as the Secretary may from time to time designate.

5 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the respon-  
6 sibilities described under subsection (a), the Assistant Sec-  
7 retary shall maintain continuous observation and coordi-  
8 nation of all matters pertaining to the development of poli-  
9 cies to secure access to international energy markets and  
10 diversify critical mineral supply chains in the conduct of  
11 foreign policy, including, as appropriate, the following:

12 (1) Representing the Secretary in interagency  
13 efforts to develop the international energy policy of  
14 the United States.

15 (2) Leading the analysis, formulation, and im-  
16 plementation of international policies aimed at pro-  
17 tecting and advancing United States energy inter-  
18 ests.

19 (3) Effectively managing United States bilateral  
20 and multilateral relations and, as directed by the  
21 Secretary, representing the Secretary in relevant  
22 international fora and organizations, including the  
23 International Energy Agency, to bolster global en-  
24 ergy security and advance the interests of the  
25 United States.

1           (4) Ensuring that analyses of the national secu-  
2           rity and economic security implications of global en-  
3           ergy developments are reflected in the decision-mak-  
4           ing processes within the Department.

5           (5) Incorporating energy and critical mineral  
6           security priorities into the activities of the Depart-  
7           ment.

8           (6) Coordinating energy activities of the De-  
9           partment with relevant Federal departments and  
10          agencies, including the Departments of Energy,  
11          Commerce, Defense, and Interior, and the United  
12          States International Development Finance Corpora-  
13          tion to promote United States energy security and  
14          energy development to support United States na-  
15          tional security readiness.

16          (7) Coordinating the Department's engagement  
17          with foreign governments regarding protection of on-  
18          shore and offshore critical energy infrastructure  
19          from sabotage or other deliberate interference by  
20          malign foreign actors.

21          (8) Analyzing and developing policies to counter  
22          the use of energy and critical minerals infrastructure  
23          and supply chain dependencies by adversaries to co-  
24          erce, influence, or manipulate the United State and  
25          allied countries.

1           (9) Coordinating energy security and other rel-  
2           evant functions within the Department, as appro-  
3           priate.

4           (10) Working internationally to—

5                 (A) support the development of energy  
6                 technologies, natural resources, critical min-  
7                 erals, and supply chains for the benefit of the  
8                 United States and United States allies and  
9                 trading partners for their energy security and  
10                economic development needs;

11               (B) promote secure and diversified energy  
12                and critical minerals supply chains, and a well-  
13                functioning global market for energy resources,  
14                energy technologies, critical minerals;

15               (C) develop new policies and regulatory  
16                frameworks, multilateral initiatives, and other  
17                tools to protect allied onshore and offshore crit-  
18                ical energy infrastructure from sabotage or  
19                other deliberate interference by malign foreign  
20                actors;

21               (D) counter the weaponization of energy  
22                and critical mineral dependencies by adver-  
23                saries;

24               (E) resolve international disputes regard-  
25                ing the exploration, development, production, or

1 distribution of energy and critical minerals re-  
2 sources where United States strategic interests  
3 are present;

4 (F) support the economic and commercial  
5 interests of United States persons operating in  
6 the energy markets of foreign countries; and

7 (G) support and coordinate international  
8 efforts to alleviate energy poverty, enhance en-  
9 ergy access and energy efficiency to promote  
10 United States strategic interests, and offer al-  
11 ternatives to adversary initiatives for United  
12 States allies and partners.

13 (11) Conducting public diplomacy with regard  
14 to United States international energy policy to  
15 strengthen transparency and good governance.

16 (12) Performing such other duties as the Under  
17 Secretary for Economic Affairs may from time to  
18 time designate.

19 (c) IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.—Not later than 180  
20 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the As-  
21 sistant Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congres-  
22 sional committees a report on the status of efforts by the  
23 Department to establish the Bureau of Energy Security  
24 and Diplomacy required in section 302, including a de-  
25 scription of current and projected staffing levels and re-

1 sources deployed to execute the responsibilities described  
2 in paragraph (b).

3 (d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one year after  
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually there-  
5 after for three years, the Assistant Secretary shall submit  
6 to Congress a report on the United States international  
7 energy strategy and the actions taken by the Bureau to  
8 fulfill such strategy.

9 **SEC. 302. BUREAU OF ENERGY SECURITY AND DIPLOMACY.**

10 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish  
11 a Bureau of Energy Security and Diplomacy, which shall  
12 perform such functions related to the formulation and im-  
13 plementation of international energy, energy technology,  
14 critical minerals, and relevant supply chain policies, as the  
15 Under Secretary for Economic Affairs may prescribe.

16 (b) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The Assistant Sec-  
17 retary shall be the head of the Bureau.

18 (c) BUREAU EMPLOYMENT.—

19 (1) TEMPORARY EXPEDITED HIRING AUTHORI-  
20 TIES.—For a period of one year beginning on the  
21 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
22 may—

23 (A) appoint employees to the Bureau  
24 whose expertise aligns with the responsibilities  
25 listed in section 301(b) without regard to the

1 provisions of title 5, United States Code, re-  
2 garding appointments in the competitive serv-  
3 ice; and

4 (B) fix the basic compensation of such em-  
5 ployees without regard to chapter 51 and sub-  
6 chapter III of chapter 53 of such title regarding  
7 classification and General Schedule pay rates.

8 (2) PRIORITY APPOINTMENTS.—The Secretary  
9 shall prioritize the appointment of employees to the  
10 Bureau—

11 (A) who were separated from employment  
12 with the Bureau of Energy and Natural Re-  
13 sources in 2025 as a result of a reduction in  
14 force; and

15 (B) whose expertise aligns with the respon-  
16 sibilities listed in section 301(b).

17 (d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
18 gress that the Assistant Secretary should be a standing  
19 participant in the Investment Committee or any other  
20 interagency working group established at or chaired by the  
21 White House National Security Council or National Eco-  
22 nomic Dominance Council to coordinate and implement  
23 United States policy regarding international critical min-  
24 eral and energy supply chain diversification.

1 **SEC. 303. CRITICAL MINERAL MINING FELLOWSHIP PRO-**  
2 **GRAM.**

3 The Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act  
4 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.) is amended by adding  
5 at the end the following:

6 **“SEC. 116. CRITICAL MINERAL MINING FELLOWSHIP PRO-**  
7 **GRAM.**

8 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be es-  
9 tablished the Critical Mineral Mining Fellowship Program  
10 (referred to in this section as the ‘Fellowship Program’)  
11 within the J. William Fulbright Educational Exchange  
12 Program.

13 “(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Fellowship  
14 Program are—

15 “(1) to advance foreign policy priorities of the  
16 United States by promoting studies, research, and  
17 international exchange in the mining industry;

18 “(2) to send United States citizens who are en-  
19 rolled in or have received a degree from an accred-  
20 ited postsecondary institution in the United States  
21 to mining institutions in foreign countries, in order  
22 to build the capacity of the United States mining  
23 workforce;

24 “(3) to develop a robust and skilled workforce  
25 that can support and fill the gaps within the United

1 States' growing domestic critical mineral supply  
2 chain; and

3 “(4) to reduce dependency on foreign energy  
4 and critical mineral supplies and enhance competi-  
5 tiveness of the United States within the global crit-  
6 ical mineral marketplace.

7 “(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Bureau of Educational  
8 and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State (referred  
9 to in this section as the ‘Bureau’) shall administer the Fel-  
10 lowship Program in accordance with policy guidelines es-  
11 tablished by the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board (re-  
12 ferred to in this section as the ‘Board’), in consultation  
13 with binational Fulbright Commissions, mining industry  
14 leaders, institutions of higher education, governments of  
15 foreign countries, and United States Embassies in the for-  
16 eign countries described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of  
17 subsection (d)(4).

18 “(d) SELECTION OF FELLOWS.—

19 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall select  
20 qualified individuals to participate in the Fellowship  
21 Program and ensure a broad geographic representa-  
22 tion in order to develop region-specific specialties.

23 “(2) NUMBER OF FELLOWS.—The Bureau shall  
24 determine the number of fellows selected each year.

25 “(3) CRITERIA FOR FELLOWS.—

1                   “(A) PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS.—

2                   Each fellow shall—

3                   “(i) have a conferred bachelor’s or  
4                   equivalent degree before the start of the  
5                   Fellowship Program period;

6                   “(ii) be a student currently enrolled in  
7                   an institution of higher education in the  
8                   United States completing an advanced de-  
9                   gree in science, technology, engineering,  
10                  mathematics, or a field relating to the min-  
11                  ing industry; or

12                  “(iii) have had a conferred  
13                  postdoctoral degree for not longer than five  
14                  years before the start of the Fellowship  
15                  Program period.

16                  “(B) POST-COMPLETION REQUIREMENT.—

17                  Upon completion of the Fellowship Program,  
18                  demonstrate intent to seek employment in a  
19                  mining profession that directly benefits the  
20                  growth, progress, and development of the min-  
21                  ing industry in the United States Government,  
22                  an academic institution, a private sector com-  
23                  pany, or any organization approved by the Bu-  
24                  reau.

1           “(4) ELIGIBLE UNIVERSITIES.—United States  
2 fellows shall attend universities approved by the Bu-  
3 reau, in consultation with the Committee on Foreign  
4 Affairs in the House of Representatives and the  
5 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate, that  
6 have a mining program and are located in a foreign  
7 country. To the extent practicable, the Bureau  
8 should prioritize fellow enrollment in higher edu-  
9 cation mining programs in—

10                   “(A) member countries of the Minerals Se-  
11 curity Partnership; or

12                   “(B) any country identified by the Bureau,  
13 in consultation with the Committee on Foreign  
14 Affairs of the House of Representatives and the  
15 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate,  
16 as containing sufficiently qualified mining pro-  
17 grams.

18           “(5) OUTREACH.—To the extent practicable,  
19 the Bureau shall conduct outreach at United States  
20 undergraduate and graduate institutions the Bureau  
21 determines are likely to produce a range of qualified  
22 applications for the Fellowship Programs.

23           “(e) STRUCTURE.—

24                   “(1) FELLOWSHIP REQUIREMENTS.—To  
25 achieve the purposes described in subsection (b)—

1           “(A) each fellow selected pursuant to sub-  
2 section (d)(1) is encouraged to arrange place-  
3 ment in a mining education program at an eli-  
4 gible university in a foreign country;

5           “(B) each fellow shall—

6           “(i) participate in advanced  
7 coursework, research projects, and prac-  
8 tical training opportunities offered by the  
9 host institution;

10          “(ii) engage with faculty advisors and  
11 industry partners to gain hands-on experi-  
12 ence through internships, laboratory work,  
13 and field studies relevant to the mining in-  
14 dustry;

15          “(iii) serve as a cultural and academic  
16 ambassador of the United States, fostering  
17 mutual understanding in the academic and  
18 professional mining community of the for-  
19 eign country;

20          “(iv) participate in professional devel-  
21 opment activities, such as conferences,  
22 workshops, and seminars, to expand knowl-  
23 edge of global best practices in mining en-  
24 gineering and related fields; and

1                   “(v) build and strengthen networks  
2                   with international peers, faculty, and in-  
3                   dustry professionals to facilitate ongoing  
4                   collaboration and knowledge exchange; and

5                   “(C) the Bureau shall, for each fellow, ap-  
6                   prove a work plan that identifies the target ob-  
7                   jectives for the fellow, including specific duties  
8                   and responsibilities relating to those objectives.

9                   “(2) FELLOWSHIP PERIOD.—

10                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—Each fellowship under  
11                   this section shall continue for a period deter-  
12                   mined by the Bureau, which, whenever feasible,  
13                   may not be less than one year.

14                   “(B) RENEWAL.—A renewal for a second  
15                   year may be granted only with the approval of  
16                   the Bureau in consultation with a United  
17                   States embassy or the Fulbright Commission.

18                   “(f) FELLOWSHIP AWARD.—The Bureau shall pro-  
19                   vide each fellow in the Fellowship Program with an allow-  
20                   ance that is equal to the amount needed for the fellow’s  
21                   reasonable costs during the fellowship period, including—

22                   “(1) mandatory university fees, including tui-  
23                   tion, associated with graduate study;

24                   “(2) living expenses, including housing, basic  
25                   food costs, and daily transportation;

1           “(3) essential textbooks and other academic  
2 materials;

3           “(4) mandatory visa application, immigration  
4 fees, and other essential pre-departure requirements;

5           “(5) relocation expenses, including airline and  
6 rail travel;

7           “(6) research allowance, including essential  
8 travel to field sites and laboratory work; and

9           “(7) other reasonable costs approved by the Bu-  
10 reau.

11          “(g) REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the  
12 date of completion of the Fellowship Program by the ini-  
13 tial cohort of fellows selected under subsection (d), and  
14 annually thereafter, the Secretary of State shall submit  
15 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-  
16 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of  
17 the Senate a report providing information on the imple-  
18 mentation of the Fellowship Program, including—

19           “(1) the demographics and geographical origins  
20 of the fellows who completed a Fellowship Program  
21 fellowship during the preceding 1-year period;

22           “(2) a description of the academic placements  
23 of the fellows and the relation of such placements to  
24 the development of United States region-specific spe-  
25 cialties under the Fellowship Program, including

1 participant feedback on program implementation  
2 and feedback on lessons learned; and

3 “(3) a plan for factoring lessons learned and  
4 acquired skills based knowledge into future Fellow-  
5 ship Program programming.”.

6 **SEC. 304. VISITING MINING SCHOLARS PROGRAM.**

7 The Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act  
8 of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.), as amended by section  
9 303, is further amended by adding at the end the fol-  
10 lowing:

11 **“SEC. 117. VISITING MINING SCHOLARS PROGRAM.**

12 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is authorized to be es-  
13 tablished the Visiting Scholars Mining Program (referred  
14 to in this section as the ‘Visiting Scholars Program’) with-  
15 in the J. William Fulbright Educational Exchange Pro-  
16 gram.

17 “(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Visiting Schol-  
18 ars Program is to bring mining academics and profes-  
19 sionals to the United States to—

20 “(1) build and expand the United States mining  
21 education programs at institutions of higher edu-  
22 cation;

23 “(2) bolster workforce development programs;  
24 and

1           “(3) advance research and development initia-  
2           tives in the mining industry and adjacent fields.

3           “(c) ADMINISTRATION.—The Bureau of Educational  
4 and Cultural Affairs (referred to in this section as the ‘Bu-  
5 reau’) shall administer the Visiting Scholars Program in  
6 accordance with policy guidelines established by the Ful-  
7 bright Foreign Scholarship Board (referred to in this sec-  
8 tion as the ‘Board’), in consultation with binational Ful-  
9 bright Commissions, mining industry leaders, institutions  
10 of higher education, foreign governments, and United  
11 States Embassies in the foreign countries described in  
12 clause (i) or (ii) of subsection (d)(3)(B).

13           “(d) SELECTION OF VISITING MINING SCHOLARS.—

14           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Board shall select  
15 qualified individuals to participate in the Visiting  
16 Scholars Program, each of whom is not a citizen of  
17 the United States and—

18           “(A) is employed as a mining professional,  
19 practitioner, or operator in a foreign country; or

20           “(B) is employed as an academic working  
21 at an institution of higher education in a for-  
22 eign country with a mining education program,  
23 as approved by a Fulbright Commission or  
24 United States embassy, in consultation with the  
25 Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of

1           Representatives and the Committee on Foreign  
2           Relations of the Senate.

3           “(2) NUMBER OF FELLOWS.—The Bureau shall  
4           determine the number of fellows selected each year,  
5           which, whenever feasible, shall be not fewer than 10.

6           “(3) ELIGIBLE VISITING MINING SCHOLARS.—

7           “(A) REQUIREMENTS.—Visiting mining  
8           scholars may not be citizens of the United  
9           States, and shall be—

10           “(i) a citizen of a country where an-  
11           other Fulbright Foreign Student Program  
12           operates; and

13           “(ii) a citizen of a country that has  
14           expertise or specialized knowledge or en-  
15           gages in practices that could benefit the  
16           mining industry.

17           “(B) PREFERRED COUNTRIES.—To the ex-  
18           tent practicable, the Board should prioritize se-  
19           lection of visiting mining scholars who live or  
20           work in—

21           “(i) a member country of the Minerals  
22           Security Partnership; or

23           “(ii) any country identified by the Bu-  
24           reau, in consultation with the Committee  
25           on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-

1           representatives and the Committee on Foreign  
2           Relations of the Senate, as containing indi-  
3           viduals that have academic expertise or  
4           specialized knowledge or engage in prac-  
5           tices that could benefit the mining indus-  
6           try.

7           “(4) OUTREACH.—To the extent practicable,  
8           the Bureau shall conduct outreach, in coordination  
9           with United States embassies, mining industry lead-  
10          ers, and mining institutions in foreign countries that  
11          are likely to produce a range of qualified applicants  
12          for the Visiting Scholars Program.

13          “(e) STRUCTURE.—

14                 “(1) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—To carry out  
15                 the purpose described in subsection (b)—

16                         “(A) each individual selected pursuant to  
17                         subsection (d)(1) who is coming to the United  
18                         States as a visiting mining scholar shall ar-  
19                         range placement in a United States academic  
20                         institution approved by the Bureau;

21                         “(B) each visiting mining scholar should—

22                                 “(i) consult with faculty members to  
23                                 provide technical assistance on how to de-  
24                                 velop or expand a mining education pro-

1                   gram at the host institution of higher edu-  
2                   cation;

3                   “(ii) assist in the development and re-  
4                   view of mining education curricula, includ-  
5                   ing course syllabi, laboratory modules, and  
6                   fieldwork components;

7                   “(iii) participate in collaborative re-  
8                   search projects with faculty, students, and  
9                   third-party research institutions, focusing  
10                  on innovative mining technologies, sustain-  
11                  able mining practices, and resource man-  
12                  agement;

13                  “(iv) facilitate partnerships between  
14                  the host institution and mining organiza-  
15                  tions, government agencies, and other in-  
16                  stitutions to foster academic exchange, re-  
17                  search collaboration, and workforce devel-  
18                  opment;

19                  “(v) mentor undergraduate and grad-  
20                  uate students interested in mining edu-  
21                  cation, offering guidance on academic  
22                  projects and career development; and

23                  “(vi) contribute to the development of  
24                  outreach programs aimed at increasing  
25                  awareness of the mining industry as a ca-

1           reer path and to increase awareness of the  
2           types of mining professions available; and

3           “(C) the bureau shall, for each visiting  
4           mining scholar, approve a work plan that iden-  
5           tifies the target objectives for the scholar, in-  
6           cluding specific duties and responsibilities relat-  
7           ing to those objectives.

8           “(2) ELIGIBLE UNITED STATES INSTITU-  
9           TIONS.—Visiting mining scholars shall be placed in  
10          a United States institution of higher education ap-  
11          proved by the Bureau that—

12           “(A) demonstrates a commitment to devel-  
13           oping or expanding academic programs in the  
14           mining industry;

15           “(B) possesses existing faculty expertise or  
16           research activity in the mining industry or re-  
17           lated extractive fields;

18           “(C) provides institutional support and re-  
19           sources, such as laboratory facilities, field sites,  
20           or equipment, relevant to mining education and  
21           research, including in geology;

22           “(D) demonstrates a commitment to inte-  
23           grate the visiting scholar into curriculum devel-  
24           opment, faculty training, or workforce pipeline  
25           initiatives in mining;

1           “(E) demonstrates a plan for sustaining  
2 mining or critical mineral resources programs  
3 beyond the duration of the visiting scholar’s  
4 placement;

5           “(F) can provide evidence of student inter-  
6 est or regional workforce demand for mining  
7 education programs or training; and

8           “(G) agrees to provide mentoring, adminis-  
9 trative support, and opportunities for the vis-  
10 iting scholar to engage with students, faculty,  
11 and local industry.

12           “(3) SCHOLARSHIP PERIOD.—

13           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The duration of each  
14 scholarship period under this section shall be  
15 determined by the Bureau and shall, whenever  
16 feasible, be not less than three months and not  
17 more than one year.

18           “(B) EXCEPTIONS.—Any exception to the  
19 duration of the scholarship period described in  
20 subparagraph (A) shall be submitted by the vis-  
21 iting mining scholar to and approved by the  
22 Bureau before such exception takes effect.

23           “(f) SCHOLARSHIP AWARD.—The Bureau shall pro-  
24 vide each visiting mining scholar under this section with

1 an allowance to cover the scholar’s reasonable costs of liv-  
2 ing during the scholarship period.

3 “(g) REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the  
4 date of completion of the Visiting Mining Scholars Pro-  
5 gram by the initial cohort of scholars selected under sub-  
6 section (d), and annually thereafter, the Secretary of State  
7 shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the  
8 House of Representatives and the Committee on Foreign  
9 Relations of the Senate a report providing information on  
10 the implementation of the Visiting Scholars Program, in-  
11 cluding—

12 “(1) the demographics and geographical origins  
13 of the cohort of scholars who completed a Visiting  
14 Scholars Program during the preceding 1-year pe-  
15 riod;

16 “(2) the United States universities that visiting  
17 scholars were placed in;

18 “(3) the foreign universities or other post-grad-  
19 uate institutions that the cohort of scholars were  
20 chosen from;

21 “(4) a description of academic placements se-  
22 lected, under the Visiting Scholars Program, includ-  
23 ing participant feedback on program implementation  
24 and feedback on lessons learned; and

1           “(5) a plan for factoring lessons learned into  
2           future programming.”.

3 **SEC. 305. AMENDMENT TO THE MUTUAL AND CULTURAL**  
4 **EXCHANGE ACT OF 1961.**

5           Section 112(a) of the Mutual Educational and Cul-  
6 tural Exchange Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2460(a)) is  
7 amended—

8           (1) in paragraph (9), by striking “; and” and  
9           inserting a semicolon;

10           (2) in the first paragraph designated as para-  
11 graph (10), by striking the period at the end and in-  
12 serting a semicolon;

13           (3) by redesignating the second paragraph des-  
14 ignated as paragraph (10) as paragraph (11);

15           (4) in paragraph (11), as so redesignated, by  
16 striking the period at the end and inserting a semi-  
17 colon; and

18           (5) by adding at the end the following:

19           “(12) the Mining Fellowship Program estab-  
20 lished under section 116, which provides funding for  
21 studies, research, and international exchange for  
22 students seeking or completing advanced degrees  
23 from United States institutions of higher education  
24 in self-arranged placements with universities with  
25 mining education programs in foreign countries; and

1           “(13) the Visiting Mining Scholars Program es-  
2           tablished under section 117, which provides funding  
3           for international mining academics, practitioners,  
4           professionals and operators in self-arranged place-  
5           ments with universities in the United States.”.

6 **SEC. 306. DEFINITIONS.**

7           The Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act  
8           of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.), as amended by section  
9           303 and section 304, is further amended by adding at the  
10          end the following:

11 **“SEC. 118. DEFINITIONS.**

12          “In this Act:

13                 “(1) **ADVANCED DEGREE.**—The term ‘advanced  
14                 degree’ means a master’s or doctoral degree from an  
15                 institution of higher education.

16                 “(2) **CRITICAL MINERAL.**—The term ‘critical  
17                 mineral’—

18                         “(A) means any mineral on the list of crit-  
19                         ical minerals required by section 7002(c)(3) of  
20                         the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(3))  
21                         on or after January 1, 2026; and

22                         “(B) includes gold and copper.

23                 “(3) **INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**—  
24                 The term ‘institution of higher education’, unless  
25                 otherwise provided in this Act, has the meaning

1 given such term in section 101(a) of the Higher  
2 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).

3 “(4) MINING EDUCATION PROGRAM.—The term  
4 ‘mining education program’ means an academic pro-  
5 gram related to the mining industry.

6 “(5) MINING INDUSTRY.—The term ‘mining in-  
7 dustry’ means the mining industry of the United  
8 States, consisting of activities related to naturally  
9 occurring metal and nonmetal critical minerals, in-  
10 cluding the following:

11 “(A) Geological mapping, geophysical sur-  
12 veying, geochemical sampling, and management  
13 of geological data.

14 “(B) Mineral system analysis, exploration,  
15 and resource delineation, including exploratory  
16 drilling and resource estimation and classifica-  
17 tion.

18 “(C) Project development, feasibility stud-  
19 ies, financing, and permitting.

20 “(D) Mine construction, extraction, and  
21 operational support activities.

22 “(E) Mineral processing, beneficiation,  
23 smelting, refining, chemical conversion, and  
24 separation.

1           “(F) Material conversion and advanced  
2 materials manufacturing.

3           “(G) Transportation, logistics, and han-  
4 dling of intermediate and finished material  
5 products.

6           “(H) Reclamation, remediation, reuse, re-  
7 cycling, and recovery of materials from primary  
8 and secondary sources, including mine waste  
9 and end-of-life products.

10          “(6) MINING PROFESSION.—The term ‘mining  
11 profession’ means the body of jobs directly relevant  
12 to the mining industry.”.

Passed the House of Representatives June 8, 2026.

Attest:

*Clerk.*

119<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**H. R. 7037**

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**AN ACT**

To promote United States and allied energy and mineral security, and for other purposes.