

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7037

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 13, 2026

Mrs. KIM (for herself, Mr. BERA, Mr. MAST, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mr. SHREVE, Mr. WITTMAN, Mr. STANTON, Mr. LAWLER, Mr. PANETTA, Ms. TITUS, Mr. MOORE of North Carolina, Mr. CASTRO of Texas, and Mrs. RADEWAGEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

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,*

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

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

8 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for
9 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.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.**

2 (a) FINDINGS.—It is the sense of Congress that—

3 (1) the United States is heavily dependent on
 4 the People’s Republic of China for the production,
 5 processing, and refinement of many key critical min-
 6 erals and materials;

7 (2) the Government of the People’s Republic of
 8 China has weaponized its dominance of critical min-
 9 eral production and has intentionally created over-
 10 capacity and sold products at below-market rates in
 11 order to gain market share and move up the value
 12 chain;

1 (3) it is in the economic and national security
2 interests of the United States to prevent further in-
3 roads by strategic competitors into key sectors such
4 as energy infrastructure, critical and rare earth min-
5 erals, and other supply chains essential to United
6 States industrial capacity and strategic security;

7 (4) a reliable, resilient, and diversified supply
8 chain for energy and critical minerals is essential to
9 meet the defense, manufacturing, technological, and
10 energy needs of the United States;

11 (5) energy security is a fundamental component
12 of United States national security, economic sta-
13 bility, and foreign policy strategy;

14 (6) the United States must utilize available
15 trade enforcement mechanisms, as well as other ap-
16 propriate policy tools, to counter coercive economic
17 practices by strategic competitors and complement
18 the growth of a robust domestic critical minerals in-
19 dustry;

20 (7) United States strategic interests are best
21 served by reducing reliance on adversarial nations
22 for energy and critical minerals, ensuring reliable
23 and affordable electricity for industrial and strategic
24 supply chains, expanding commercial opportunities
25 for United States energy technologies, and securing

1 diversified and reliable access to critical minerals for
2 the United States and allied economies; and

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

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

12 (1) reduce the dependence of the United States
13 and partner countries on strategic competitors for
14 energy, critical minerals, and related technologies;

15 (2) support economic growth and energy-sector
16 modernization in partner countries through respon-
17 sible and transparent development of domestic en-
18 ergy and mineral resources;

19 (3) advance United States national security and
20 foreign policy objectives through strategic invest-
21 ments, policy coordination, and expanded coopera-
22 tion with allies and partners;

23 (4) establish a coordinated interagency mecha-
24 nism to align United States diplomatic, development,
25 trade, and financing tools;

1 (5) strengthen the commercial competitiveness
2 of United States energy and critical mineral compa-
3 nies in global markets; and

4 (6) secure a diversified and resilient supply and
5 processing capacity for critical minerals necessary
6 for United States industry, energy systems, and de-
7 fense requirements, as well as those of allied and
8 partner countries.

9 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

10 In this Act:

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

13 (A) any country described in section
14 2350a(a)(2) of title 10, United States Code;
15 and

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

18 (2) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**
19 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-
20 mittees” means—

21 (A) the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the
22 Committee on Ways and Means, and the Com-
23 mittee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
24 resentatives; and

1 (B) the Committee on Foreign Relations,
2 the Committee on Finance, and the Committee
3 on Appropriations of the Senate.

4 (3) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term “Assist-
5 ant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary for
6 Energy Security and Diplomacy, as established in
7 section 301.

8 (4) COUNTRY COMPACT TEAM.—The term
9 “Country Compact Team” means a dedicated team
10 formed by the Director for Energy Security Com-
11 pacts to manage the day-to-day activities related to
12 the development, negotiation, implementation, and
13 monitoring of the Energy Security Compacts.

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

19 (6) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”
20 means the Department of State.

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

24 (8) PROCESSED.—The term “processed”, with
25 respect to a critical mineral, means the mineral has

1 undergone the activities that occur after critical min-
2 eral ore is extracted from a mine up through its con-
3 version into a metal, metal powder, or a master
4 alloy.

5 (9) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
6 the Secretary of State.

7 (10) UNDER SECRETARY.—The term “Under
8 Secretary” means the Under Secretary for Economic
9 Affairs.

10 **TITLE I—MINERALS SECURITY**
11 **PARTNERSHIP AUTHORIZATION**

12 **SEC. 101. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO SECURE CRIT-**
13 **ICAL MINERALS SUPPLY CHAINS.**

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

16 (1) to collaborate with allies and partners of the
17 United States to build secure and resilient critical
18 mineral supply chains, including in the mining, proc-
19 essing, reclamation and recycling, and valuation of
20 critical minerals, as well as with respect to advanced
21 manufacturing that includes critical minerals;

22 (2) to prioritize the development and production
23 of critical minerals domestically, including both to
24 supply domestic needs and for export to allies and

1 partners that participate in secure and resilient sup-
2 ply chains for critical minerals;

3 (3) to reduce or eliminate reliance on critical
4 mineral supply chains controlled by the People's Re-
5 public of China, the Russian Federation, Iran, or
6 any other strategic competitor to the United States;

7 (4) to work with allies and partners on enhanc-
8 ing evaluation capability, tracing, and technology in
9 trusted countries that produce critical minerals to
10 avoid the export of mined and processed critical min-
11 erals to adversaries of the United States;

12 (5) to identify and implement market-based in-
13 centives for the purposes of facilitating the creation
14 and maintenance of secure and resilient critical min-
15 eral supply chains, including for reclamation and re-
16 cycling of critical mineral resources from waste
17 streams, in collaboration with allies and partners;

18 (6) to prioritize securing critical mineral supply
19 chains in the United States foreign policy, including
20 through the use of economic tools to invest responsi-
21 bility in beneficiation and value-adding projects in
22 partner countries in a manner that both benefits
23 local populations and bolsters the supply of critical
24 minerals to the United States;

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

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

11 (9) that collaboration with allies and partners
12 to build secure and resilient critical mineral supply
13 chains shall not replace United States efforts to in-
14 crease domestic development and production or recy-
15 cling of critical minerals.

16 (b) INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO
17 PROTECTING CRITICAL MINERAL SUPPLY CHAINS.—

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

21 (A) facilitate the transparent mining, proc-
22 essing, supply, and procurement of critical min-
23 erals;

24 (B) facilitate advanced manufacturing that
25 includes critical minerals; and

1 (C) secure an adequate supply of critical
2 minerals and relevant products, manufacturing
3 inputs, and components that are heavily de-
4 pendent on critical mineral resources for the
5 United States and other members of the coali-
6 tion (in this title referred to as “member coun-
7 tries”).

8 (2) NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES.—The overall
9 objectives for negotiating an agreement described in
10 paragraph (1) shall be—

11 (A) to establish mechanisms for member
12 countries to build secure, resilient, and trans-
13 parent supply chains for critical minerals, in-
14 cluding in—

15 (i) the mining, refinement, processing,
16 and valuation of critical minerals; and

17 (ii) advanced manufacturing of prod-
18 ucts, components, and materials that are
19 dependent on critical minerals;

20 (B) to improve economies of scale and
21 joint cooperation with international partners in
22 securing access to and means of production
23 throughout the supply chains of critical min-
24 erals and manufacturing processes dependent
25 on critical minerals;

1 (C) to establish mechanisms, with appro-
2 priate market-based disciplines, that provide
3 and maintain opportunities among member
4 countries for creating industry economies of
5 scale to attract joint investment among member
6 countries, including—

7 (i) cooperation on joint projects, in-
8 cluding cost-sharing on building appro-
9 priate infrastructure to access deposits of
10 critical minerals; and

11 (ii) creation or enhancement of na-
12 tional and international programs to sup-
13 port the development of robust industries
14 by providing appropriate sector-specific in-
15 centives, such as political risk and other
16 insurance opportunities, financing, and
17 other support, for—

18 (I) transparent mining and proc-
19 essing of critical minerals;

20 (II) manufacturing of products,
21 components, and materials that are
22 dependent on critical minerals and are
23 essential to consumer technology
24 products or have important national
25 security implications; and

1 (III) associated transportation
2 needs that are tailored to the han-
3 dling, movement, and logistics man-
4 agement of critical minerals and prod-
5 ucts, components, and materials that
6 are dependent on critical minerals;

7 (D) to establish market-based rules for
8 member countries regarding adoption of quali-
9 fying tax and other incentives to stimulate in-
10 vestment to ensure a fair playing field among
11 member countries;

12 (E) to establish recommended best prac-
13 tices to protect—

14 (i) labor rights;

15 (ii) the natural environment and eco-
16 systems near critical mineral industrial
17 sites;

18 (iii) the safety of communities near
19 critical mineral industrial activities
20 through consultation; and

21 (iv) supply chain diversity;

22 (F) to advance economic growth in devel-
23 oping countries with critical mineral reserves,
24 including for the benefit of the citizens of such
25 countries;

1 (G) to establish rules allowing for the es-
2 tablishment of a consortium that is resourced
3 and empowered to bid and compete in acquiring
4 and securing potential deposits of critical min-
5 erals in countries that are not member coun-
6 tries;

7 (H) to establish a mechanism for joint re-
8 source mapping with procedures for equitable
9 sharing of information on potential deposits of
10 critical minerals not less frequently than annu-
11 ally;

12 (I) to establish appropriate mechanisms for
13 the recognition and enforcement by a member
14 country of judgements relating to environmental
15 and related harms caused by mining operations
16 within such member country in contravention of
17 the laws of such country; and

18 (J) to improve supply chain security
19 among member countries by providing for na-
20 tional treatment investment protections among
21 member countries that are equal to, or better
22 than, the standards set forth in the United
23 States model bilateral investment treaty.

24 (3) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION RE-
25 QUIRED.— In the course of negotiations described in

1 paragraph (1), the Secretary shall, not less fre-
2 quently than annually, consult with the Committee
3 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives
4 and the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Sen-
5 ate, and shall keep such committees fully apprised of
6 such negotiations.

7 (c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
8 tion shall be construed to alter any other provision of
9 United States domestic law or regulation applicable to
10 critical minerals.

11 **SEC. 102. MINERALS SECURITY PARTNERSHIP AUTHORIZA-**
12 **TION.**

13 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, acting through the
14 Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy,
15 and the Environment, may lead United States participa-
16 tion in a “Minerals Security Partnership”, for the fol-
17 lowing purposes:

18 (1) To identify and support investment and ad-
19 vocate for commercial and military use critical min-
20 eral mining, processing, and refining projects that
21 enable robust, secure, and transparent critical min-
22 eral supply chains, in consultation with the other
23 Federal agencies, as appropriate.

24 (2) To coordinate with relevant regional bu-
25 reaus to develop regional diplomatic engagement

1 strategies related to critical minerals projects and to
2 identify projects that are priorities.

3 (3) To coordinate with United States missions
4 abroad on projects, programs, and investments that
5 enable robust and secure critical mineral supply
6 chains.

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

9 (5) To establish a mechanism for information-
10 sharing with members of the Minerals Security Part-
11 nership.

12 (6) To establish policies and procedures, and if
13 necessary, to provide funding to facilitate coopera-
14 tion on joint projects with members of the Minerals
15 Security Partnership and any related organizations
16 established by the Minerals Security Partnership (in-
17 cluding the Mineral Security Partnership Forum),
18 including those related to cost-sharing agreements,
19 political risk insurance, financing, equity invest-
20 ments, pricing mechanisms, procurement, and other
21 support, in coordination with other Federal agencies,
22 as appropriate.

23 (7) To coordinate with Development Finance
24 Institutions, Export Credit Agencies, multilateral
25 banks, and private banks headquartered in Minerals

1 Security Partnership member countries to promote
2 information exchange and co-financing through the
3 Minerals Security Partnership Finance Network.

4 (8) To identify individuals within the Bureau of
5 Energy Security and Diplomacy to monitor and co-
6 ordinate responses to trade measures or policies that
7 may adversely affect United States and allied coun-
8 try supplies of critical minerals or investments in
9 third-country critical mineral markets, especially in-
10 vestments supported by the Minerals Security Part-
11 nership.

12 (9) To establish procedures to prevent, review,
13 and deter critical mineral asset sales to prohibited
14 foreign entities (as such term is defined in section
15 7701 of the Internal Revenue Code) by companies
16 within the jurisdiction of Minerals Security Partner-
17 ship and Minerals Security Partnership Forum
18 member countries.

19 (10) To establish a framework for the trans-
20 parent evaluation of member countries' compliance
21 and effectiveness in fulfilling the purposes listed in
22 paragraphs (1) through (9) of this section.

23 (11) To identify and recommend priority coun-
24 tries for future engagement, including through an
25 Energy Security Compact described in section 201

1 or any other relevant alliance between the United
2 States and a foreign country related to securing and
3 diversifying critical mineral supply chains.

4 (b) DATABASE.—As part of the Minerals Security
5 Partnership, the Secretary, acting through the Under Sec-
6 retary, may establish and maintain a database of critical
7 mineral projects for the purpose of providing high quality
8 and up-to-date information to the private sector in order
9 to spur greater investment, increase the resilience of global
10 critical minerals supply chains, and boost United States
11 supply of critical minerals.

12 (c) EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION WITH THE MIN-
13 ERALS SECURITY PARTNERSHIP.—

14 (1) PROCEDURE.—The Secretary, acting
15 through the Under Secretary, shall develop a proce-
16 dure for the collection, handling, and transmission of
17 commercial information or data that is provided by
18 other Federal departments and agencies and trans-
19 mitted to members of the Minerals Security Partner-
20 ship.

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

23 (A) Any information or data which is geo-
24 logical or geophysical information or a trade se-
25 cret or commercial or financial information

1 shall, prior to transmittal, be aggregated, accu-
2 mulated, or otherwise reported in such a man-
3 ner as to avoid, to the fullest extent feasible,
4 identification of any person from whom the
5 United States obtained such information.

6 (B) The limitations on disclosure described
7 in the following:

8 (i) section 11(d) of the Energy Supply
9 and Environmental Coordination Act of
10 1974 (15 U.S.C. 796(d));

11 (ii) section 14(b) of the Federal En-
12 ergy Administration Act of 1974 (15
13 U.S.C. 773(b));

14 (iii) section 9 of title 13, United
15 States Code;

16 (iv) the first section of the Act of Jan-
17 uary 27, 1938, entitled “An Act to make
18 confidential certain information furnished
19 to the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic
20 Commerce, and for other purposes” (15
21 U.S.C. 176a);

22 (v) section 1905 of title 18, United
23 States Code; and

1 (vi) section 252 of the Energy Policy
2 and Conservation Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C.
3 6274).

4 (3) EXCEPTIONS.—

5 (A) INTERNATIONAL ENERGY EMER-
6 GENCY.—Notwithstanding paragraph (2), the
7 Secretary may make any information or data
8 available to members of the Minerals Security
9 Partnership during an international energy sup-
10 ply emergency.

11 (B) PRESIDENTIAL CERTIFICATION.—Not-
12 withstanding paragraph (2), the Secretary may
13 make any information or data available to
14 members of the Minerals Security Partnership
15 if the President certifies, after opportunity for
16 presentation of views by interested persons,
17 that the Minerals Security Partnership has
18 adopted and is implementing security measures
19 such that such information or data will not be
20 disclosed by member countries of the Minerals
21 Security Partnership or the agencies or employ-
22 ees of such countries to any person or foreign
23 country without having been aggregated, accu-
24 mulated, or otherwise reported in such manner
25 as to avoid identification of any person from

1 whom the United States obtained such informa-
2 tion or data.

3 (d) MINERAL SECURITY PARTNERSHIP STAFF.—The
4 Secretary shall prioritize staffing the Mineral Security
5 Partnership with individuals who have the following quali-
6 fications:

7 (1) Substantive knowledge and experience in
8 issues related to critical minerals supply chains and
9 the application of such supply chains to strategic in-
10 dustries, including in the defense, energy, and tech-
11 nology sectors.

12 (2) Substantive knowledge and experience in
13 large-scale multi-donor project financing and related
14 technical and diplomatic arrangements, international
15 coalition-building, development finance, and project
16 management.

17 (3) Substantive knowledge and experience in
18 trade and foreign policy, defense-industrial base pol-
19 icy, or national security-sensitive supply chain
20 issues.

21 (e) PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY COORDINA-
22 TION.—The Secretary, acting through the Under Sec-
23 retary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environ-
24 ment, shall ensure close coordination between the Depart-

1 ment, the private sector, and relevant civil society groups
2 regarding the implementation of this section.

3 (f) PROJECT SELECTION.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The United States, through
5 participation in the Minerals Security Partnership,
6 shall prioritize projects that advance the national
7 and economic security interests of the United States
8 and allies and partners of the United States.

9 (2) CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS.—The United
10 States shall advocate for the Minerals Security Part-
11 nership to use environmental, societal, and govern-
12 ance standards, including as criteria for project se-
13 lection, that are consistent with United States law or
14 international agreements approved by Congress.

15 (3) PRIVATE SECTOR COLLABORATION.—The
16 Department shall coordinate with the private sector
17 to leverage expertise and ensure projects supported
18 by the Minerals Security Partnership are catalyzed
19 by private sector investments and commercial
20 offtake, with priority to the United States, through
21 the Minerals Investment Network for Vital Energy
22 Security and Transformation (commonly known as
23 “MINVEST”).

1 **SEC. 103. UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTER-**
2 **NATIONAL NICKEL STUDY GROUP.**

3 (a) UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP.—The President
4 may accept the Terms of Reference of and maintain mem-
5 bership of the United States in the International Nickel
6 Study Group.

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

13 **SEC. 104. DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY FOR SECURING CRITICAL**
14 **MINERALS.**

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

20 (b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required by subsection
21 shall—

22 (1) include—

23 (A) a review of the roles and responsibil-
24 ities of offices and positions within the Depart-
25 ment engaged, as of the date of the enactment

1 of this Act, in efforts to secure critical mineral
2 supply chains; and

3 (B) processes to ensure that such offices
4 coordinate and deconflict such efforts;

5 (2) leverage use of United States financial,
6 commercial, and development assistance tools and
7 resources to advance the critical mineral policies of
8 the United States;

9 (3) include targeted engagement plans for both
10 countries that are allies or partners of the United
11 States and countries with significant proven or esti-
12 mated deposits of critical minerals or processing ca-
13 pacity for minerals critical to national security inter-
14 ests;

15 (4) provide for coordination with relevant Fed-
16 eral agencies to align trade policies to address both
17 price volatility and incentivize the sourcing of critical
18 minerals from trusted suppliers;

19 (5) strengthen collaboration with countries that
20 are allies and partners of the United States, and le-
21 verage the leadership role of the United States in
22 multilateral institutions engaged on critical mineral
23 issues to shape international standards;

24 (6) extend the diplomatic and commercial advo-
25 cacy support of the United States to private sector

1 entities throughout critical mineral supply chains;
2 and

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

5 (A) identify best practices and develop co-
6 ordinated standards for critical mineral
7 projects;

8 (B) protect against inhumane labor prac-
9 tices; and

10 (C) minimize adverse environmental and
11 social impacts from the critical minerals supply
12 chain.

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

17 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
18 Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the
19 House of Representatives; and

20 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
21 the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.

22 **SEC. 105. MECHANISM TO SUPPORT CRITICAL MINERAL**
23 **PROJECTS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.**

24 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
25 gress that United States private sector entities competing

1 for critical mineral projects abroad need support from the
2 United States Government.

3 (b) SUPPORT FOR CRITICAL MINERAL PROJECTS.—

4 The Secretary shall direct an appropriate official or office
5 of the Department to establish a mechanism and process
6 for the United States to provide support for critical min-
7 eral projects in foreign countries, which may include—

8 (1) a mechanism for certifying that critical min-
9 eral projects uphold labor rights and minimize envi-
10 ronmental impacts; and

11 (2) a process for United States private sector
12 entities to engage with United States embassies in
13 foreign countries for support when pursuing critical
14 mineral projects in such countries.

15 **TITLE II—ENERGY SECURITY** 16 **COMPACTS**

17 **SEC. 201. ENERGY SECURITY COMPACTS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized to
19 make available, from amounts authorized to be appro-
20 priated for fiscal year 2026 or any subsequent fiscal year
21 for bilateral economic assistance (including amounts au-
22 thorized to be appropriated to the Economic Resilience
23 Initiative), amounts for the purpose of establishing multi-
24 year agreements (to be known as “Energy Security Com-
25 pacts”) with partner countries to enhance the energy and

1 economic security and stability of the United States and
2 such partner countries, including through efforts to
3 counter economic coercion through the diversification of
4 critical mineral and energy supply chains.

5 (b) TRANSFERS.—Funds made available for the Eco-
6 nomic Resilience Initiative or otherwise determined by the
7 Secretary to be made available to support Energy Security
8 Compacts may be transferred to, and merged with, funds
9 appropriated for fiscal year 2026 or thereafter under the
10 headings “Trade and Development Agency”, “Millennium
11 Challenge Corporation”, “United States International De-
12 velopment Finance—Corporate Capital Account”, “United
13 States International Development Finance—Program Ac-
14 count”, “Development Finance Corporate Equity Invest-
15 ment Account”, and “Export-Import Bank of the United
16 States—Program Account” by any Act providing appro-
17 priations for the Department of State and related pro-
18 grams.

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

23 (1) prior consultation with—

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

23 (e) LIMITATIONS.—

24 (1) PROHIBITION ON MILITARY ASSISTANCE
25 AND TRAINING.—Assistance under this section may

1 not include military assistance or military training
2 for a country.

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

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

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

24 (5) LIMITATION RELATING TO THE PRESIDENT
25 AND VICE PRESIDENT.—None of the funds author-

1 ized to be appropriated or otherwise made available
2 by this Act may be obligated or expended to provide
3 any grant, contract, loan, or other financial assist-
4 ance to an entity in which the President, the Vice
5 President, or an immediate family member (as such
6 term is defined in section 1128(j) of the Social Secu-
7 rity Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7(j))) of the President or
8 Vice President holds, directly or indirectly, any own-
9 ership interest or serves in any managerial, officer,
10 director, or board capacity.

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

18 (1) the current status of activities authorized
19 under this title;

20 (2) any obstacles to the implementation of such
21 activities; and

22 (3) any updates to the multiyear financial plan
23 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.”.

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