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H.R. 2925

Mining Regulatory Clarity Act

This week, House Republicans continue their political crusade to check off the wish lists of industries that have consistently lied to, ripped off, or harmed the American people in the name of bigger profits. **H.R. 2925, the *Mining Regulatory Clarity Act* (Amodei, R-Nev.), is an egregious giveaway to the mining industry that puts polluter profits over public health, our environment, & tribal sovereignty.**

H.R. 2925 tips the scales even further in the mining industry's favor. And opens the door to more bad actors.

Currently, thanks to our outdated Mining Law of 1872, virtually anyone can put four stakes in the ground on our public lands and claim them for mining, as long as there is proof of a valuable mineral.

As long as the small annual fee is paid, those lands will be prioritized for mining above all else, including conservation, clean energy, and recreation. By law, mining is the "highest and best use" on claimed lands. If minerals are ever extracted, the company doesn't pay a single cent in royalties to the American people.

H.R. 2925 goes further, removing the need for proof of a valuable mineral — the one small guardrail we have against mining companies locking up our public lands in perpetuity. This effectively clears the way for bad actors to file "nuisance claims" that could block renewable energy development or force buy-outs of their claims.

H.R. 2925 makes dumping toxic mining waste the "highest and best use" of our public lands.

Contrary to Republican rhetoric that U.S. mining is safe, hardrock mining is the country's number one source of toxic pollution. Mining companies have exploited our antiquated mining law's lack of protections, devastating our environment and nearby communities, including many tribes, which are disproportionately impacted by mining.

H.R. 2925 builds on mining's toxic legacy by allowing "ancillary uses" — including dumping toxic waste — to be conducted on public lands under a mining claim.

H.R. 2925 is a flimsy attempt at greenwashing mining.

Republicans are exploiting the fact that we need new minerals for the clean energy transition to push an age-old mining giveaway. Our energy future should not just be cleaner, but also safer and more just. We must pass meaningful mining reform legislation, like the House and Senate Democrats' ***Clean Energy Minerals Reform Act***, which protects special places, respects tribal consultation, and safeguards public health.

THE MINING LAW OF 1872 IS FAILING US — AND H.R. 2925 WON'T HELP.

Hardrock mining operates under our more than 150-year-old mining law, which includes:

- No environmental or tribal consultation requirements
- ZERO royalties for minerals taken from our public lands
- No financial liability for cleanup

H.R. 2925 doesn't fix any of these issues. It only makes it even easier to mine under this destructive status quo.



H.R. 2925 boosts foreign-owned mining company profits, not the U.S. economy.

Mining companies are largely headquartered outside of the U.S., with three-quarters being based in Canada, where lax safeguards allow companies to skirt oversight in other countries. The companies engaged in some of the most high-profile fights to mine our sacred or special places, like the Boundary Waters, Oak Flat, or Bristol Bay, are all foreign-owned. H.R. 2925 does nothing to prevent these companies from outsourcing jobs and selling minerals from our public lands on the global market.

DOUBLING DOWN ON THE FLAWS OF OUR OUTDATED MINING LAW EXACERBATES THE INDUSTRY'S TOXIC LEGACY HERE IN THE U.S., WHILE FOREIGN-OWNED MINING CONGLOMERATES WALK AWAY WITH THE PROFITS. VOTE NO ON H.R. 2925.