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Calendar No. 669

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3872

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 16, 2025

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

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

Reported by Mr. LEE, without amendment

AN ACT

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

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

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

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

(1) in section 2 (30 U.S.C. 351)—

(A) by striking ''Act 'United States' '' and inserting the following: ''Act:

"(1) UNITED STATES.—The term 'United States' ";

(B) by striking "Alaska. 'Acquired lands' " and inserting the following: "Alaska.

"(2) ACQUIRED LANDS; LANDS ACQUIRED BY THE UNITED STATES.—The term 'acquired lands' ";

(C) by striking "552). 'Secretary' " and inserting the following: "552).

"(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' ";

(D) by striking "Interior. 'Mineral leasing laws' shall mean" and inserting the following: "Interior.

"(4) MINERAL LEASING LAWS.—The term 'mineral leasing laws' means";

(E) by striking "Acts. 'Lease' " and inserting the following: "Acts.

"(5) LEASE.—The term 'lease' ";

(F) by striking "requires. The term" and inserting the following: "requires.

"(6) OIL.—The term"; and

(G) by adding at the end the following:

"(7) HARDROCK MINERAL.—The term 'hardrock mineral'—

"(A) includes deposits of—

"(i) minerals found in sedimentary or other rocks;

"(ii) base metals;

"(iii) precious metals;

"(iv) industrial minerals; and

"(v) precious and semi-precious gemstones; and

"(B) does not include deposits of—

"(i) coal;

"(ii) oil;

"(iii) oil shale;

"(iv) gas;

"(v) sodium;

"(vi) potassium;

"(vii) sulfur; or

"(viii) mineral materials subject to disposition under the Act of July 31, 1947, commonly known as the Materials Act of 1947 (30 U.S.C. 601 et seq.).''; and

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

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September 17, 2026

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