

Minerals Make Policy

As the United States faces a growing reliance on mineral imports, members of Congress have introduced legislation that would better utilize the nation's mineral resources while supporting American innovation, manufacturing, economic growth and national security.

Minerals Legislation

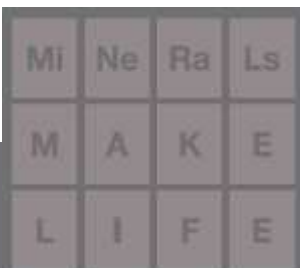
- Proposed in May 2011, Sen. Lisa Murkowski's "Critical Minerals Policy Act" (S.1113) and Rep. Doug Lamborn's "National Strategic and Critical Minerals Policy Act" (H.R.2011) would require:
 - An inventory of national mineral needs, including the demands of manufacturers;
 - An updated assessment of the United States' mineral resources, as well as identification of lands unavailable for mining;
 - A review of the minerals permitting process—which currently takes between 5 and 10 years—along with recommendations for improvements;
 - Improved capabilities to provide more forward-looking analyses of mineral supply chain trends; and
 - Workforce assessments, curriculum development, worker training and associated grant authorizations for minerals miners.

Minerals Support Growth and Security

- Major U.S. industries used mineral materials to manufacture final products such as cars and houses, making up about **15 percent**—more than **\$2 trillion**—of the 2011 GDPⁱ.
- For every job in metals mining, an estimated **2.3** additional jobs are generated, and for every nonmetals mining job, an additional **1.6** jobs are createdⁱⁱ. More mining means more jobs.
- The U.S. military uses **three-quarters of a million** tons of minerals each year^{iii,iv} to keep our troops well equipped with technology ranging from advanced jet engines to night vision equipment and missile guidance systems.

NMA Supports Smart Minerals Policy

Congressional support for the establishment of a national minerals policy underscores the importance of a reliable minerals supply chain. NMA is committed to working with Congress to pass this critical legislation that would support job and economic growth, as well as American innovation, manufacturing and national security.



Sources:

ⁱ U.S. Geological Survey, *Mineral Commodity Summaries 2012*

ⁱⁱ PricewaterhouseCoopers, *The Economic Contributions of U.S. Mining in 2008*

ⁱⁱⁱ U.S. Geological Survey

^{iv} *Reconfiguration of the National Defense Stockpile Report to Congress*