



July 10, 2018

Dear Joe,

With the House and Senate in conference around the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), now is the time to urge Congress to use this opportunity to strengthen the minerals supply chain that is so vital to U.S. military operations. The House-passed version of the NDAA includes a critical amendment championed by Rep. Mark Amodei (R-Nev.), which would provide our country with timely access to our wealth of domestic minerals.

As conference over the bill continues, it's vital our legislators support the passage of the minerals provision as a matter of national security. Each year, the Department of Defense uses 750,000 tons of minerals and metals to produce the technologies that protect our troops and our nation. Without minerals like silver, molybdenum and copper, key military hardware, like Apache helicopters, jet engines and body armor, wouldn't be possible.

Unfortunately, our antiquated and duplicative mine permitting process discourages domestic minerals production, decreasing supplies of critical minerals. This means our national defense has become increasingly reliant on foreign nations to supply these important raw materials. It's imperative that

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our policymakers understand the gravity of this situation, and act now to encourage domestic minerals production to support our troops.

As part of our efforts to see this amendment is passed, I wrote a [letter to the Senate Committee on Armed Services](#) who will review the NDAA in the coming weeks. I urged them to support the minerals amendment as “an important opportunity to reverse years of growing import-dependence on the minerals and metals that are so essential to the mission of our military.”

Now, it’s your turn to call on your legislators to act. Your voice can make all the difference in this important debate. We encourage you to call or write your representatives and ask them to support the minerals provision:

Want to understand more on why these provisions are so critical to our military supply chain? Read our latest blog post to find out.

## Learn More

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## Take Action

Thank you,

Hal Quinn  
NMA President and CEO

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