

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1314

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a global rare earth element assessment, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 1, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. LUJÁN, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GARAMENDI, Mr. HOLT, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. ELLISON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a global rare earth element assessment, 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.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Resource Assessment
5 of Rare Earths Act of 2011” or the “RARE Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. GLOBAL RARE EARTH ELEMENT RESOURCE AS-**
7 **SESSMENT.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Inte-

1 rior, acting through the Director of the United States Geo-
2 logical Survey and in coordination with the heads of na-
3 tional geological surveys where available, shall submit to
4 the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural
6 Resources of the Senate a comprehensive report on global
7 rare earth element resources and potential future global
8 supply. Such report shall use the best available data and
9 include—

10 (1) the identity and quantity of individual rare
11 earth elements in known deposits;

12 (2) models demonstrating the geologic condi-
13 tions necessary for the formation, and the variability
14 in composition, of the most significant deposits of
15 rare earth elements;

16 (3) regional assessments of the likelihood of oc-
17 currence of undiscovered deposits and an estimate of
18 the quantity of rare earth elements thought to be
19 present;

20 (4) recommendations, developed in consultation
21 with other appropriate agencies, on areas of need for
22 future geologic research related to—

23 (A) rare earth elements; and

1 (B) other minerals that are critical based
2 on the impact of a potential supply restriction
3 and the likelihood of a supply restriction; and
4 (5) analysis, developed with participation by the
5 National Minerals Information Center and in con-
6 sultation with appropriate agencies, of the rare earth
7 elements supply chain and associated processes and
8 products, including mining, processing, separation,
9 metal production, alloy production, and manufac-
10 turing of products sold to end users.

11 (b) RARE EARTH ELEMENT.—In this section the
12 term “rare earth element” means—

13 (1) any element in the lanthanides group of ele-
14 ments, which consists of lanthanum, cerium, praseo-
15 dymium, neodymium, promethium, samarium, euro-
16 pium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium,
17 erbium, thulium, ytterbium, and lutetium;

18 (2) yttrium; and

19 (3) scandium.

20 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
21 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Inte-
22 rior to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for the period
23 of fiscal years 2012 through 2014.

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