

Members of Congress,

The undersigned organizations share our vote recommendation on the mining and minerals related amendment to H.R. 8070, the Servicemember Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (NDAA). Our organizations represent millions of supporters and members, and we are share this vote recommendation in line with our work to protect communities, the environment, cultural resources and special places. The NDAA should be about national security, and this vote recommendation ensures that is the case.

92-Oberholte-Oppose

This amendment calls for a report identifying domestic places where rare earth elements mining should be done, but the identification is only based off potential of deposits and feasibility, not the impacts to local communities, including tribes, or the local environment, including drinking water. With the draconian breadth of the mining law from 1872, including such considerations in a report is necessary.

Sincerely,

Earthjustice

Black Hills Clean Water Alliance

Center for Biological Diversity

Northeastern Minnesotans for Wilderness

Malach Consulting

Earthworks

Great Basin Resource Watch

Mining Impact Coalition of Wisconsin

River Alliance of Wisconsin

Alaska Wilderness League

Great Basin Water Network

Environmental Protection Information Center- EPIC

Arizona Trail Association

Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance

HEAL Utah

GreenLatinos

Idaho Rivers United

Southeast Alaska Conservation Council

Friends of the Earth

Cascade Forest Conservancy

Mother Kuskokwim Tribal Coalition

Arizona Wildlife Federation

Alaska Clean Water Advocacy

Conservation Northwest

Save Our Sky Blue Waters

Gila Resources Information Project

Save Lake Superior Association

Rock Creek Alliance

Save Our Cabinets

Friends of the Kalmiopsis

Citizens to Protect Smith Valley (NV)

Plug In America

Mennonite Central Committee U.S.