

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 981

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 6, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself and Mr. MARKEY) 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 2013” or the “RARE Act of 2013”.

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-
10 rior, acting through the Director of the United States Geo-

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

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

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

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

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

22 (A) rare earth elements; and

23 (B) other minerals that are critical based
24 on the impact of a potential supply restriction
25 and the likelihood of a supply restriction; and

1 (5) analysis, developed with participation by the
2 National Minerals Information Center and in con-
3 sultation with appropriate agencies, of the rare earth
4 elements supply chain and associated processes and
5 products, including mining, processing, separation,
6 metal production, alloy production, and manufac-
7 turing of products sold to end users.

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

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

15 (2) yttrium; and

16 (3) scandium.

17 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
18 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Inte-
19 rior to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for the period
20 of fiscal years 2014 through 2016.

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