

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 5617
OFFERED BY MS. ANSARI OF ARIZONA**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “Geothermal Gold Book
3 Development Act”.

**4 SEC. 2. PUBLICATION OF “GOLD BOOK” FOR GEOTHERMAL
5 OPERATIONS ON FEDERAL LANDS.**

6 (a) IDENTIFICATION.—Not later than one year after
7 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the
8 Interior, in consultation with other relevant Federal agen-
9 cies, shall identify standard procedures and guidelines for
10 efficient and environmentally responsible geothermal leas-
11 ing and permitting to the extent such standard procedures
12 and guidelines are not addressed in the fourth edition of
13 the Bureau of Land Management’s “Surface Operating
14 Standards and Guidelines for Oil and Gas Exploration and
15 Development”, commonly known as the “Gold Book” and
16 last revised in 2007.

17 (b) PUBLICATION.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days
2 after identifying standard procedures and guidelines
3 under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior
4 shall publish an updated version of the Gold Book
5 incorporating any changes necessary to support effi-
6 cient and environmentally responsible geothermal
7 leasing and permitting for use by the field offices of
8 the Bureau of Land Management and geothermal
9 operators.

10 (2) RENAMING GOLD BOOK.—The Secretary of
11 the Interior shall rename the Gold Book to reflect
12 the incorporation of standard procedures and guide-
13 lines related to geothermal development.

14 (c) CONSULTATION.—Before publishing an updated
15 version of the Gold Book, the Secretary of the Interior
16 shall consult with—

17 (1) other relevant Federal agencies, including
18 field offices of the Bureau of Land Management;
19 and

20 (2) outside stakeholders, including developers
21 and other experts.

22 (d) INCLUSIONS.—Each updated version of the Gold
23 Book shall include standard procedures and guidelines for
24 ensuring the efficient review and approval of environ-
25 mentally responsible geothermal development, including—

- 1 (1) exploration and geophysical operations;
- 2 (2) permitting lease operations;
- 3 (3) compliance with all applicable laws and reg-
- 4 ulations;
- 5 (4) construction and maintenance; and
- 6 (5) drilling, production, and utilization oper-
- 7 ations.

8 (e) PERIODIC REVISION.—The Secretary of the Inte-

9 rior shall—

- 10 (1) at least once every five years, review the
- 11 most recent version of the Gold Book; and
- 12 (2) if determined necessary by the Secretary of
- 13 the Interior to support efficient and environmentally
- 14 responsible geothermal leasing and permitting, pub-
- 15 lish an updated version of the Gold Book.

