



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN BRUCE WESTERMAN

To: House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Members
From: House Committee on Natural Resources Republican Staff
Date: Monday, April 20, 2026
Subject: Markup of 8 Bills

The House Committee on Natural Resources will hold a markup on **Tuesday, April 21, 2026, at 10:30 a.m., in room 1324 Longworth House Office Building**. The bills to be considered include: H.R. 1501 (Rep. Shreve); H.R. 1687 (Rep. Fulcher); H.R. 3756 (Rep. Crenshaw); H.R. 4290 (Rep. Vasquez); H.R. 5911 (Rep. Hurd); H.R. 5929 (Rep. Barr); H.R. 6162 (Rep. Stansbury); and H.R. 7618 (Rep. Kiggans).

Member offices are requested to notify Madeline Kelley (Madeline.Kelley@mail.house.gov) by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 20, 2026, to confirm their Member's attendance at the markup.

I. KEY MESSAGES & TOPLINE ACTIONS

- Bills expected to move by regular order: H.R. 1501 (Rep. Shreve), "*Protecting Domestic Mining Act of 2025*" and H.R. 5929 (Rep. Barr), "*Critical Minerals Supply Chain Resiliency Act*".
- Please note that H.R. 1501 and H.R. 5929 will each have an amendment in the nature of a substitute (ANS). Members should ensure that amendments are drafted to the ANS.
- Bills expected to move by unanimous consent: H.R. 1687 (Rep. Fulcher), "*Committing Leases for Energy Access Now Act*" or "*CLEAN Act*"; H.R. 3756 (Rep. Crenshaw), "*Fighting Foreign Illegal Seafood Harvests Act of 2025*" or "*FISH Act of 2025*"; H.R. 4290 (Rep. Vasquez), "*Downwinder Commemoration Act of 2025*"; H.R. 5911 (Rep. Hurd), "*Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act*"; H.R. 6162 (Rep. Stansbury), "*Albuquerque Indian School Act of 2025*"; and H.R. 7618 (Rep. Kiggans), "*American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2026*".

II. EXPECTED LEGISLATION

[H.R. 1501](#) (Rep. Shreve), “*Protecting Domestic Mining Act of 2025*”

The Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act (FAST Act)¹ established, in Title 41 (FAST-41), the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council (FPISC), which was reauthorized via the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021.² FPISC serves as a convenor and project manager for federal agencies and stakeholders to bring efficiency and transparency to the permitting process.³ To accomplish those goals, FPISC has created a permitting dashboard to track “the status of federal environmental reviews and authorizations for covered projects.”⁴

In a reversal from President Trump’s first term, the Biden administration proposed narrowing FAST-41 coverage so that only critical-mineral mining projects, rather than all mining projects, would be eligible for streamlined permitting.⁵ The proposed rule would have exacerbated the country’s dependence on foreign adversaries for mineral production and further threatened national security. Fortunately, the Biden administration never finalized this proposal.

H.R. 1501, sponsored by Representative Jefferson Shreve (R-IN-06), prohibits any future administration from finalizing or implementing the Biden-era proposed rule, which would severely impede domestic mineral investment and resource independence. The bill also amends the FAST Act to add mining as a covered project eligible for the FAST-41 process. This would provide enduring stability and assurance to both regulators and producers by limiting a future administration’s ability to, once again, thrust the industry and country into uncertainty. H.R. 1501 advances President Trump’s agenda by codifying key elements of Executive Order (E.O.) 14241, *Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production*⁶ and E.O. 14154, *Unleashing American Energy*.⁷

At markup, an ANS will be offered that expands FAST-41 coverage to mineral processing.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contacts: Annie Caputo (Annie.Caputo@mail.house.gov) and Sam Harvey (Sam.Harvey@mail.house.gov).

¹ Pub. Law No. 114-94.

² Pub. Law No. 117-58.

³ Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, “Our Mission and What We Do,” <https://www.permitting.gov/about/our-mission>.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council, “Revising Scope of the Mining Sector of Projects That Are Eligible for Coverage Under Title 41 of the Fixing America’s Surface Transportation Act,” Federal Register, September 22, 2023, <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/09/22/2023-20270/revising-scope-of-the-mining-sector-of-projects-that-are-eligible-for-coverage-under-title-41-of-the>.

⁶ The White House, “Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production,” March 20, 2025, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/immediate-measures-to-increase-american-mineral-production/>.

⁷ The White House, “Unleashing American Energy,” January 20, 2025, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/unleashing-american-energy/>.

H.R. 5929 (Rep. Barr), “Critical Minerals Supply Chain Resiliency Act”

The Defense Production Act of 1950 authorizes the Secretary of War to take specific steps to “create, maintain, protect, expand, or restore domestic industrial base capabilities essential for the national defense.”⁸ From raw minerals to manufactured products, the U.S. must act quickly to unleash industrial independence; without rapid progress, the country will fall permanently behind adversarial nations like China. Overly cumbersome and bureaucratic permitting processes are preventing the Secretary of War from strategically leveraging the authority already granted under the Defense Production Act of 1950, needlessly slowing key reindustrialization efforts.

To meet America’s strategic and industrial needs, the Secretary of War’s efforts under the Defense Production Act of 1950 must be eligible for the FAST-41 streamlined permitting processes. Doing so will help ensure that our country maintains the industrial capabilities essential to national security and economic prosperity.

H.R. 5929, introduced by Representative Andy Barr (R-KY-06), adds the actions authorized under the Defense Production Act of 1950 to the list of covered projects eligible for the FAST-41 expedited permitting process. For example, H.R. 5929 ensures that the FAST-41 program encompasses Secretary of War-directed feasibility studies for mineral processing projects, by-product and co-product recovery from existing mines and mine waste, as well as initiatives focused on modernization, workforce safety, and environmental sustainability. This bill aligns with President Trump’s agenda by codifying portions of E.O. 14241, *Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production*.⁹

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contacts: Annie Caputo (Annie.Caputo@mail.house.gov) and Sam Harvey (Sam.Harvey@mail.house.gov).

H.R. 1687 (Rep. Fulcher), “Committing Leases for Energy Access Now Act” or “CLEAN Act”

The Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (GSA) requires the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) to hold “a competitive lease sale at least once every [two] years for land in a [s]tate that has nominations pending.”¹⁰ The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), however, has often ignored this requirement. In California, for example, BLM failed to hold a competitive geothermal lease sale for nearly 11 years until the Trump administration held one in the summer of 2025.¹¹

⁸ 50 U.S.C. § 4533(a)(1).

⁹ The White House, “Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production,” March 20, 2025, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/immediate-measures-to-increase-american-mineral-production/>.

¹⁰ Pub. L. No. 91-581.

¹¹ Bureau of Land Management, “California Geothermal Energy,” <https://www.blm.gov/programs/energy-and-minerals/renewable-energy/geothermal-energy/regional-information/california>.

H.R. 1687, sponsored by Representative Russ Fulcher (R-ID-01), would relieve geothermal leasing and permitting backlogs by amending the GSA¹² to require the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) to hold annual lease sales for geothermal energy. If a lease sale is missed for any reason, the bill requires the Secretary to hold replacement sales during the same year. The bill also requires the Secretary to respond to geothermal drilling permit applications within 30 days of receipt, informing applicants whether their applications are complete. If the Secretary determines an application is complete, then the Secretary would have an additional 30 days to issue a final decision on the application. The GSA currently lacks such permitting timelines, creating inefficiencies in the geothermal permitting process.

At markup, an ANS will be offered, reducing the requirement for the Secretary to offer 100 percent of nominated parcels to at least 75 percent of those eligible for leasing under each state's Resource Management Plan. If the Secretary fails to offer 75 percent, the Secretary will be required to publish a justification identifying the legal, environmental, or administrative basis for the decision. The ANS also allows agencies to defer issuing a final decision while still complying with all deadlines outlined in the Fiscal Responsibility Act. If an agency defers, it will be required to provide applicants with a list of all necessary agency and applicant steps that must be taken before a final decision can be made. Finally, the ANS will direct the deferring agency to issue a decision on the permit within 10 days of both the applicant and the agency completing all necessary steps as outlined in the original permit deferral notice.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contacts: Annie Caputo (Annie.Caputo@mail.house.gov) and Sam Harvey (Sam.Harvey@mail.house.gov).

H.R. 3756 (Rep. Crenshaw), “*Fighting Foreign Illegal Seafood Harvests Act of 2025*” or “*FISH Act of 2025*”

Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing undermines American seafood competitiveness, depletes fish populations, and is often linked to forced labor.¹³ In 2019 alone, IUU fishing accounted for more than \$2 billion, or 11 percent, of U.S. seafood imports, depriving our economy of significant revenue and stealing tens of thousands of American jobs.¹⁴ IUU fishing runs counter to the U.S.'s gold standard for fisheries management under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA).

H.R. 3756, introduced by Representative Dan Crenshaw (R-TX-02), seeks to combat IUU fishing where it occurs by directing the Secretary of Commerce to establish a blacklist of foreign vessels suspected of engaging in IUU fishing.¹⁵ Once listed, these vessels would be indefinitely

¹² Pub. L. No. 91-581.

¹³ NOAA Fisheries, “Understanding Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing,”

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/insight/understanding-illegal-unreported-and-unregulated-fishing>. Accessed 5 Nov. 2025.

¹⁴ U.S. International Trade Commission, “Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Accounts for More than \$2 Billion of U.S. Seafood Imports, Reports USITC,” USITC News Release 21-040, March 18, 2021,

https://www.usitc.gov/press_room/news_release/2021/er031811740.htm.

¹⁵ H.R. 3756, 119th Congress, <https://cradminclerk.house.gov/repository/II/III3/20251119/118654/BILLS-119HR3756ih.pdf>.

barred from entering U.S. ports, and their cargo would be subject to confiscation.¹⁶ The bill would also require the Department of the Treasury to impose sanctions on offending vessels.¹⁷

Companion legislation, S. 688, has been introduced in the U.S. Senate by Senator Dan Sullivan (R-AK). It was favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment on April 30, 2025.

At markup, an ANS will be offered that makes technical and clarifying changes.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contact: Kirby Struhar (Kirby.Struhar@mail.house.gov).

H.R. 5911 (Rep. Hurd), “*Crystal Reservoir Conveyance Act*”

Near the City of Ouray, Colorado, U.S. Forest Service (USFS) administers the Crystal Reservoir, one of the area’s most popular recreation destinations.¹⁸ The Reservoir is critical for wildfire suppression and response activities, local agricultural operations, and providing water for the city’s needs.¹⁹ However, in 2024, USFS chose to drain the reservoir after finding “a concerning crack, signs of seepage and other issues” at the Full Moon Dam.²⁰ Given the Reservoir’s importance to Ouray, the City has expressed interest in acquiring the drained and defunct Reservoir and surrounding land from USFS to conduct repairs.²¹

H.R. 5911, sponsored by Representative Jeff Hurd (R-CO-03), conveys to Ouray the Reservoir, Full Moon Dam and Ditch, and 45 acres of surrounding land necessary to the Reservoir’s operation and maintenance, along with all water rights associated with the covered land and related infrastructure. H.R. 5911 would save taxpayer money by reducing the federal estate and preventing USFS from having to undertake costly repairs to the Reservoir’s infrastructure. An amendment will be offered at markup reflecting technical assistance from USFS.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contacts: Aniela Butler (Aniela@mail.house.gov) and Brandon Miller (Brandon.Miller@mail.house.gov).

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ *Id.*

¹⁸ Shannon Mullane, “A picturesque lake in southwestern Colorado disappeared. Locals want it back as fast as possible,” The Colorado Sun, September 30, 2024, <https://coloradosun.com/2024/09/30/crystal-lake-drained-ouray-high-risk-dam/>.

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ Shannon Mullane, “Colorado’s US senators introduce bill to give a federal reservoir, Crystal Lake, to the city of Ouray,” The Colorado Sun, September 10, 2025, <https://coloradosun.com/2025/09/10/colorado-senators-federal-reservoir-crystal-lake-ouray/>.

H.R. 7618 (Rep. Kiggans), “*American Battlefield Protection Program Amendments Act of 2026*”

America’s battlefields are hallowed sites, showcasing the sacrifices, struggles, defeats, and triumphs that shaped our country’s history. Unfortunately, despite their rich histories, many of these hallowed grounds have been lost or destroyed over the centuries.²² To prevent further loss of sacred battlefield sites, Congress created the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) in 1996.²³ The ABPP provides grants in four categories (battlefield land acquisition, battlefield interpretation, battlefield restoration, and preservation planning) to protect sites related to the Revolutionary War, War of 1812, and the Civil War.

Introduced by Representative Jen Kiggans (R-VA-02), H.R. 7618 reauthorizes and improves the ABPP in several ways. First, the legislation extends the ABPP’s authorization from 2028 to 2036. Second, the bill consolidates separate authorizations for the Restoration and Interpretation Modernization Grant Programs into a single, unified authorization. Finally, the bill directs the National Park Service (NPS) to study sites and structures related to the French and Indian War and the Mexican-American War, two central conflicts from American history that are not currently included in the ABPP. An amendment will be offered at markup reflecting technical assistance from NPS.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contacts: Aniela Butler (Aniela@mail.house.gov) and Hannah Devereaux (Hannah.Devereaux@mail.house.gov).

H.R. 4290 (Rep. Vasquez), “*Downwinder Commemoration Act of 2025*”

On July 16, 1945, the U.S. government conducted the Trinity Test near Alamogordo, New Mexico, detonating the world’s first atomic bomb.²⁴ Residents living in surrounding communities, often referred to as “Downwinders,” “were not warned or evacuated” prior to the test and, as a result, were exposed to radioactive fallout.²⁵ In the decades that followed, these communities experienced elevated rates of serious health conditions, including cancer, which many residents and advocates attribute to radiation exposure.²⁶

H.R. 4290 directs the Secretaries of the Army, Air Force, and the Interior to jointly obtain three honorific plaques commemorating the Downwinder communities of New Mexico. The plaques must be placed at White Sands Missile Range, Holloman Air Force Base, and White Sands National Park. The plaques would provide visible recognition of the communities affected by the

²² American Battlefield Trust, “FAQS: Battlefield Preservation,” <https://www.battlefields.org/about/faqs-battlefield-preservation#lost>.

²³ National Park Service, “American Battlefield Protection Program: What We Do,” <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/2287/whatwedo.htm>.

²⁴ Megan Kamerick, “Downwinder says Trinity commemorations will feel different with RECA expansion,” KUNM, July 11, 2025, <https://www.kunm.org/local-news/2025-07-11/downwinder-says-trinity-commemorations-will-feel-different-with-reca-expansion>.

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ *Id.*

Trinity Test and commemorate the historical and military significance of the nation's nuclear weapons program. An amendment will be offered at markup, making minor technical corrections.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contacts: Aniela Butler (Aniela@mail.house.gov) and Hannah Devereaux (Hannah.Devereaux@mail.house.gov).

H.R. 6162 (Rep. Stansbury), “Albuquerque Indian School Act of 2025”

H.R. 6162 transfers 9.89 acres of land from the General Services Administration, including three tracts of land formerly used by the Albuquerque Indian School, into trust for the 19 Pueblos of New Mexico. This land holds cultural and historical significance for the tribes and will be used for educational, health, cultural, business, and economic development to benefit the Pueblo communities.²⁷ The legislation prohibits the land from being utilized for gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

An ANS will be offered by the bill's sponsor at markup, reflecting technical assistance from DOI, making minor technical and clarifying amendments.

Hearing information, including testimony, may be viewed [here](#), and the hearing memo may be viewed [here](#).

Staff contact: Kirstin Liddell (Kirstin.Liddell@mail.house.gov).

III. CBO SCORES

None available.

IV. EFFECT ON CURRENT LAW (RAMSEYER)

[H.R. 1501](#)

[H.R. 1687](#)

[H.R. 3756](#)

[H.R. 7618](#)

²⁷ Letters of Support for H.R. 6162. On file.