

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 7882
OFFERED BY MR. STAUBER OF MINNESOTA

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. LEASING OF CERTAIN DEPOSITS OF MINERALS
2 LOCATED WITHIN CITY OF CARLSBAD, NEW
3 MEXICO.

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the exclusion in
5 the first section of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
6 181) with respect to incorporated cities, towns, and vil-
7 lages or the first sentence of section 3 of the Mineral Leas-
8 ing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 352) with respect
9 to incorporated cities, towns, and villages, and subject to
10 written consent provided by the City of Carlsbad, New
11 Mexico, to the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary may
12 lease deposits of the minerals described in such section
13 and such sentence that are located on covered land in ac-
14 cordance with the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181
15 et seq.) or Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30
16 U.S.C. 351 et seq.), as applicable, and any other applica-
17 ble Federal mineral leasing law.

1 (b) NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY.—Each lease issued
2 pursuant to subsection (a) shall include a no surface occu-
3 pancy stipulation.

4 (c) BONDING.—As a condition of any lease issued
5 pursuant to subsection (a) and prior to commencing oper-
6 ations pursuant to such a lease, the lessee or operator of
7 such a lease shall provide financial assurances consistent
8 with subpart 3104 of title 43, Code of Federal Regula-
9 tions, as in effect on June 22, 2024.

10 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
11 may be construed to exempt any activity conducted pursu-
12 ant to a lease issued pursuant to subsection (a) from the
13 requirements of any applicable Federal, State, Tribal, or
14 local law or regulation concerning the protection of public
15 health, safety, the environment, groundwater, or drinking
16 water.

17 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) ACQUIRED LAND.—The term “acquired
19 land” has the meaning given the term “acquired
20 lands” in section 2 of the Mineral Leasing Act for
21 Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 351).

22 (2) COVERED LAND.—The term “covered land”
23 means land that—

24 (A) is—

1 (i) owned by the United States within
2 the meaning of the Mineral Leasing Act
3 (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.); or
4 (ii) acquired land; and
5 (B) located within the City of Carlsbad,
6 New Mexico.

