

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.

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## 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

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## 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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