



(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 7422

To amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to provide cost-recovery authority for the Department of the Interior.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to provide cost-recovery authority for the Department of the Interior.

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 “Geothermal Cost-Re-
5 covery Authority Act of 2024”.

1 **SEC. 2. COST RECOVERY FROM GEOTHERMAL LEASING,**
2 **PERMITTING, AND INSPECTIONS.**

3 Section 6 of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30
4 U.S.C. 1005) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(j) COST RECOVERY.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require
8 an applicant for, or a holder of, a geothermal lease
9 to reimburse the United States for all reasonable ad-
10 ministrative and other costs incurred by the United
11 States from—

12 “(A) processing the application for the
13 geothermal lease, including any application for
14 an operations plan, geothermal drilling permit,
15 utilization plan, site license, facility construc-
16 tion permit, commercial use permit, and any
17 other approval associated with a geothermal
18 lease; and

19 “(B) inspecting and monitoring—

20 “(i) geophysical exploration activities;

21 “(ii) the drilling, plugging, and aban-
22 donment of wells; and

23 “(iii) the construction, operation, ter-
24 mination, and reclamation of any well site
25 or facility for the utilization of geothermal

1 resources pursuant to the geothermal
2 lease.

3 “(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining wheth-
4 er to require reimbursement under paragraph (1),
5 the Secretary shall consider whether there is in ex-
6 istence a cooperative cost share agreement between
7 the United States and the holder of a geothermal
8 lease.”.