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February 24, 2026

The Honorable Pete Stauber  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Yassamin Ansari  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources  
Committee on Natural Resources  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Stauber and Ranking Member Ansari,

On behalf of the National Association of Manufacturers and the 13 million people who make things in America, thank you for holding today's legislative hearing on the important bills pertaining to mining, critical minerals, and permitting of domestic resources.

The NAM is the voice of the manufacturing community and the leading advocate for a policy agenda that supports and empowers those who make things in America. As the largest manufacturing association in the U.S., the NAM's membership includes businesses of all sizes, across all industrial sectors, and in all 50 states. Manufacturers collectively contribute \$2.9 trillion to the U.S. economy.

Manufacturers in America utilize critical minerals extensively, deploying them in a wide array of manufactured products throughout the U.S. economy—including in aircraft and defense systems, in automotive parts and vehicles, in electric grid components, in robotics and industrial automation, in personal electronics, and much more. The NAM believes it is vital for global economic leadership and for U.S. national security to safeguard stable and diversified supply chains of critical minerals.

Cementing reliable supply chains to ensure manufacturers can obtain the materials they need to make things in America is essential. Manufacturers operate at all stages of global critical minerals supply chains, from mining and extraction to refining and processing to product fabrication, assembly, and materials recycling. Given the broad reach of the manufacturing sector and impact that manufacturing's success can have on the American economy, it is essential that policymakers take action to ensure reliable and quick access to critical minerals and natural resources.

The NAM applauds the Subcommittee's efforts to secure critical mineral supply chains, expand domestic mining and processing, streamline permitting processes for manufacturers, and leverage complementary capabilities of international partners. The NAM supports:

- **H.R. 1501**, the Protecting Domestic Mining Act of 2025, introduced by Rep. Jefferson Shreve (R-IN), which modifies the FAST Act to classify mining activities as covered projects and ensure that mining operations are explicitly included and protected under the existing framework.
- **H.R. 2969**, the Finding ORE Act, introduced by Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA), which enables the Secretary of the Interior to cooperate with foreign countries to increase data acquisition, prospectivity mapping, and training, with a focus on improving supply chain resilience and investment.
- **H.R. 4781**, the RESCUE Act of 2025, introduced by Rep. Andy Barr (R-KY), which modifies the FAST Act to expand the definition of a critical project to include activities related to the extraction, recovery, or processing of minerals, rare earth elements, and microfine carbon or carbon from coal byproducts.
- **H.R. 5929**, the Critical Minerals Supply Chain Resiliency Act, introduced by Rep. Andy Barr (R-KY), which treats actions taken by the Secretary of War to support domestic production of critical minerals as covered projects under the FAST Act.
- **H.R. 7126**, the SECURE Minerals Act of 2026, introduced by Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA), which creates a government corporation to secure U.S. access to critical minerals by fostering domestic and partner country production, ensuring stable pricing, and reducing reliance on foreign supply chains.
- **H.R. 7458**, the Domestic ORE Act, introduced by Rep. Harriet Hageman (R-WY), which requires notice for mineral exploration activities on public lands that the Secretary of the Interior must approve, ensuring transparency and regulatory oversight for non-commercial extraction activities.

Manufacturers strongly support these bills as they will ensure that manufacturers have stable supply chains for the critical minerals essential to powering America.

Sincerely,



Mike Davin  
Director, Energy and Resources Policy



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