

Jim French, Chair  
Ken Tipton, Vice Chair  
Ron Cerri, Commissioner  
Tom Hoss, Commissioner  
Jesse Hill, Commissioner

## Humboldt County, Nevada Board of Commissioners



Humboldt County Courthouse  
50 West Fifth Street Room 205  
Winnemucca, Nevada 89445

May 2, 2022

The Honorable Raul Grijalva, Chairman  
House Natural Resources Committee

*Via email*

**Re: Opposition to new "Clean Energy Minerals Reform Act of 2022"**

Dear Chairman Grijalva,

The Humboldt County Board of Commissioners was recently alerted to an effort on your part to introduce new legislation. The Clean Energy Minerals Reform Act of 2022 appears to be another effort to undermine one of the most important industries in America – Mining!

While the bill appears to have addressed some of the concerns that surfaced when a similar bill was introduced by you in 2019 (HR 2579), it ultimately will have significant socioeconomic impacts on Humboldt County and mining communities throughout the western United States. The precious minerals mined responsibly from mines in Humboldt County, NV, in other Nevada counties, and in the other western mining states are key to the US and global economies and must be strengthened to meet the demands of the market and to sustain long-term jobs for American families.

The immediate concern is the lack of engagement with local governments in the preparation of this new legislation. Federal legislators and agencies have begun efforts to make changes to laws that govern multiple use of federal lands without the benefit of intimate discussions with state and local governments, not to mention what impact those decisions will have on the competitiveness of the United State globally.

It is the Board's understanding that the new legislation will again endanger the prosperity of the mining industry in Nevada and throughout the western United States, despite the impressive performance of our mining industry to set standards for both environmentally safe procedures and worker health and safety.

We also have grave concerns that enactment of your new bill would increase the Nation's reliance on Russia, China, and other adversaries for the minerals essential to our security and economy. We urge you to substantially amend your bill to encourage responsible domestic mining of our important mineral resources in order to keep American strong.

Respectfully submitted,



Jim French, Chairman  
Humboldt County Board of Commissioners

CC: Senator Catherine Cortez-Masto, Senator Jacky Rosen, Representative Mark Amodei, Representative Dina Titus, Representative Susie Lee, Representative Steven Horsford