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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8450

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate certain minerals for designation as critical minerals.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mrs. CAMMACK introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to evaluate certain minerals for designation as critical minerals.

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 “Phosphate and Potash  
5 Protection Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. EVALUATION OF CERTAIN MINERALS FOR DESIGNA-**  
7 **TION AS CRITICAL MINERALS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the  
9 date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, in

1 consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall evalu-  
2 ate potash, phosphates, and other minerals necessary for  
3 the production of fertilizer and other agricultural products  
4 used to promote crop development for designation as crit-  
5 ical minerals under section 7002(c)(4) of the Energy Act  
6 of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(4)).

7 (b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—Not later than 90 days  
8 after the date of the enactment of this section, the Sec-  
9 retary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture,  
10 shall—

11 (1) evaluate policies in place as of the date of  
12 the enactment of this section related to the permit-  
13 ting and leasing of projects for the exploration, de-  
14 velopment, and production of the minerals described  
15 in subsection (a); and

16 (2) submit to the appropriate congressional  
17 committees recommendations to support the domes-  
18 tic production of such minerals.

19 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
20 of the enactment of this section, the Secretary, in con-  
21 sultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall submit  
22 to the appropriate congressional committees a report re-  
23 garding the evaluation carried out under subsection (a),  
24 including a description of how each mineral described in  
25 subsection (a) does or does not meet each requirement of

1 the designation methodology to determine the eligibility of  
2 each such mineral for inclusion on the critical minerals  
3 list.

4 (d) DESIGNATION.—If, pursuant to the evaluation  
5 carried out under subsection (a), the Secretary, in con-  
6 sultation with the Secretary of Agriculture, determines  
7 that a mineral described in subsection (a) meets each re-  
8 quirement of the designation methodology, the Secretary,  
9 in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and not  
10 later than 60 days after the date on which the report re-  
11 quired under subsection (c) is submitted, shall designate  
12 such mineral as a critical mineral under section  
13 7002(c)(4) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C.  
14 1606(c)(4)) and update the critical minerals list accord-  
15 ingly.

16 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

17 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
18 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
19 mittees” means—

20 (A) the Committee on Natural Resources  
21 and the Committee on Agriculture of the House  
22 of Representatives; and

23 (B) the Committee on Energy and Natural  
24 Resources and the Committee on Agriculture,  
25 Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

1           (2) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term “critical  
2 mineral” has the meaning given the term in section  
3 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C.  
4 1606(a)).

5           (3) CRITICAL MINERALS LIST.—The term “crit-  
6 ical minerals list” means the list of critical minerals  
7 published under section 7002(c)(3) of the Energy  
8 Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(3)).

9           (4) DESIGNATION METHODOLOGY.—The term  
10 “designation methodology” means the methodology  
11 published under section 7002(c)(3) of the Energy  
12 Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(c)(3)) as of the date  
13 of the enactment of this section.

14           (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
15 the Secretary of the Interior.