

**AMENDMENT TO RULES COMMITTEE PRINT****119–8****OFFERED BY MR. OWENS OF UTAH**

At the end of subtitle B of title XVII, add the following new section:

1 **SEC. 17\_\_\_\_. TECHNOLOGY GRANTS TO STRENGTHEN DO-**  
2 **MESTIC MINING EDUCATION.**

3 (a) DOMESTIC MINING EDUCATION STRENGTHENING  
4 PROGRAM.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Sec-  
5 retary of the Interior (acting through the Director of the  
6 United States Geological Survey), shall—

7 (1) establish a grant program to strengthen do-  
8 mestic mining education; and

9 (2) under the program established under para-  
10 graph (1), award competitive grants to mining  
11 schools for the purpose of recruiting and educating  
12 the next generation of mining engineers and other  
13 qualified professionals to meet the future energy and  
14 mineral needs of the United States.

15 (b) GRANTS.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the grant  
17 program established under subsection (a)(1), the

1 Secretary shall award not more than 10 grants each  
2 year to mining schools.

3 (2) SELECTION REQUIREMENTS.—

4 (A) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum ex-  
5 tent practicable, the Secretary shall select re-  
6 cipients for grants under paragraph (1) to en-  
7 sure geographic diversity among grant recipi-  
8 ents to ensure that region-specific specialties  
9 are developed for region-specific geology.

10 (B) TIMELINE.—The Secretary shall  
11 award the grants under paragraph (1) by not  
12 later than the later of—

13 (i) the date that is 180 days after the  
14 start of the applicable fiscal year; and

15 (ii) the date that is 180 days after the  
16 date on which the Act making full-year ap-  
17 propriations for the Department of Energy  
18 for the applicable fiscal year is enacted.

19 (3) RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD.—

20 (A) IN GENERAL.—In selecting recipients  
21 for grants under paragraph (1) and deter-  
22 mining the amount of each grant, the Sec-  
23 retary, to the maximum extent practicable, shall  
24 take into consideration the recommendations of

1 the Board under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of  
2 subsection (c)(3).

3 (B) SELECTION STATEMENT.—In selecting  
4 recipients for grants under paragraph (1), the  
5 Secretary shall—

6 (i) in response to a recommendation  
7 from the Board, submit to the Board a  
8 statement that describes—

9 (I) whether the Secretary accepts  
10 or rejects, in whole or in part, the rec-  
11 ommendation of the Board; and

12 (II) the justification and ration-  
13 ale for any rejection, in whole or in  
14 part, of the recommendation of the  
15 Board; and

16 (ii) not later than 15 days after  
17 awarding a grant for which the Board sub-  
18 mitted a recommendation, publish the  
19 statement submitted under clause (i) on  
20 the Department of Energy website.

21 (4) USE OF FUNDS.—A mining school receiving  
22 a grant under paragraph (1) shall use the grant  
23 funds—

24 (A) to recruit students to the mining  
25 school; and

1 (B) to enhance and support programs re-  
2 lated to, as applicable—

3 (i) mining, mineral extraction effi-  
4 ciency, and related processing technology;

5 (ii) emphasizing critical mineral and  
6 rare earth element exploration, extraction,  
7 and refining;

8 (iii) reclamation technology and prac-  
9 tices for active mining operations;

10 (iv) the development of reprocessing  
11 systems and technologies that facilitate  
12 reclamation that fosters the recovery of re-  
13 sources at abandoned mine sites;

14 (v) mineral extraction, refining, proc-  
15 essing, reprocessing, and recycling methods  
16 that reduce environmental and human im-  
17 pacts;

18 (vi) technologies to extract, refine,  
19 separate, melt, produce, or recycle min-  
20 erals, including rare earth elements;

21 (vii) reducing dependence on foreign  
22 energy and mineral supplies through in-  
23 creased domestic critical mineral produc-  
24 tion and recycling;

1 (viii) enhancing the competitiveness of  
2 United States energy and mineral tech-  
3 nology exports;

4 (ix) the extraction or processing of co-  
5 inciding mineralization, including rare  
6 earth elements, within coal or other ores,  
7 coal or mineral processing byproduct, over-  
8 burden, or residue from coal, minerals, or  
9 other ores;

10 (x) enhancing technologies and prac-  
11 tices relating to mitigation of acid mine  
12 drainage, reforestation, and revegetation in  
13 the reclamation of land and water re-  
14 sources adversely affected by mining;

15 (xi) enhancing exploration and charac-  
16 terization of new or novel deposits, includ-  
17 ing rare earth elements and critical min-  
18 erals within phosphate rocks, uranium-  
19 bearing deposits, and other nontraditional  
20 sources;

21 (xii) meeting challenges of extreme  
22 mining conditions, such as deeper deposits  
23 or cold region mining;

24 (xiii) mineral economics, including  
25 analysis of supply chains, future mineral

1 needs, and unconventional mining re-  
2 sources; and

3 (xiv) mining practices that reduce en-  
4 vironmental impact, including mining prac-  
5 tices that reduce water usage, mitigate  
6 surface disturbance, and promote overall  
7 resource efficiency.

8 (c) MINING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ADVI-  
9 SORY BOARD.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is established an advi-  
11 sory board, to be known as the “Mining Professional  
12 Development Advisory Board”.

13 (2) COMPOSITION.—The Board shall be com-  
14 posed of 6 members, to be appointed by the Sec-  
15 retary not later than 180 days after the date of en-  
16 actment of this section, of whom—

17 (A) 3 shall be individuals who are actively  
18 working in the mining profession and for the  
19 mining industry; and

20 (B) 3 shall have experience in academia  
21 implementing and operating professional skills  
22 training and education programs in the mining  
23 sector.

24 (3) DUTIES.—The Board shall—

1 (A) evaluate grant applications received  
2 under subsection (b) and make recommenda-  
3 tions to the Secretary for selection of grant re-  
4 cipients under that subsection;

5 (B) propose the amount of the grant for  
6 each applicant recommended to be selected  
7 under subparagraph (A); and

8 (C) perform oversight to ensure that grant  
9 funds awarded under subsection (b) are used  
10 for the purposes described in paragraph (4) of  
11 that subsection.

12 (4) TERM.—A member of the Board shall serve  
13 for a term of 4 years.

14 (5) VACANCIES.—A vacancy on the Board—

15 (A) shall not affect the powers of the  
16 Board; and

17 (B) shall be filled in the same manner as  
18 the original appointment was made by not later  
19 than 180 days after the date on which the va-  
20 cancy occurs.

21 (d) REPEAL OF MINING AND MINERAL RESOURCES  
22 RESEARCH INSTITUTE ACT OF 1984.— Public Law 98–  
23 409 (30 U.S.C. 1221 et seq.; commonly known as the  
24 “Mining and Mineral Resources Research Institute Act of  
25 1984”) is repealed.

1 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

2 (1) The term “Board” means the Mining Pro-  
3 fessional Development Advisory Board established by  
4 subsection (c)(1).

5 (2) The term “institution of higher education”  
6 has the meaning given the term in section 101 of the  
7 Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

8 (3) The term “mining industry” means the  
9 mining industry of the United States, consisting of  
10 the search for, and extraction, beneficiation, refin-  
11 ing, smelting, processing, reprocessing, and recycling  
12 of, naturally occurring metal and nonmetal minerals  
13 from the earth.

14 (4) The term “mining profession” means the  
15 body of jobs directly relevant to—

16 (A) the exploration, planning, execution,  
17 and remediation of metal and nonmetal mining  
18 sites; and

19 (B) the extraction, including the separa-  
20 tion, refining, alloying, smelting, concentration,  
21 processing, reprocessing, and recycling of min-  
22 eral ores.

23 (5) The term “mining school” means—

24 (A) a mining, metallurgical, geological, or  
25 mineral engineering program accredited by the



1 Accreditation Board for Engineering and Tech-  
2 nology, Inc., that is located at an institution of  
3 higher education, including a Tribal College or  
4 University; or

5 (B) a geology or engineering program or  
6 department that is located at a 4-year public in-  
7 stitution of higher education located in a State  
8 the gross domestic product of which in 2021  
9 was not less than \$2,000,000,000 in the com-  
10 bined categories of “Mining (except oil and  
11 gas)” and “Support activities for mining”, ac-  
12 cording to the Bureau of Economic Analysis.

13 (6) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
14 of Energy.

15 (7) The term “Tribal College or University”  
16 has the meaning given the term in section 316(b) of  
17 the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C.  
18 1059c(b)).

