

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—119th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 2550

To provide for international cooperation to secure critical mineral supply chains, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended
to be proposed by Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr.
CURTIS)

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Critical Minerals Part-
5 nership Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF CRITICAL MINERAL.**

7 In this Act, the term “critical mineral”—

8 (1) has the meaning given the term in section
9 7002 of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606);

10 and

11 (2) includes—

1 (A) gold and copper; and

2 (B) any other mineral or mineral material

3 determined by the Secretary of State—

4 (i) to be essential to the economic or
5 national security of the United States; and

6 (ii) to have a supply chain vulnerable
7 to disruption.

8 **SEC. 3. STATEMENT OF POLICY ON CRITICAL MINERAL**
9 **SUPPLY CHAINS.**

10 It is the policy of the United States—

11 (1) to collaborate with allies and partners of the
12 United States to responsibly build secure and resil-
13 ient critical minerals supply chains, including in the
14 mining, processing, reclamation and recycling, and
15 valuation of critical minerals;

16 (2) to prioritize the development and production
17 of critical mineral resources domestically, including
18 through improvement of systems for collecting and
19 recycling critical minerals from used and discarded
20 goods or equipment, both to supply domestic needs
21 and for export to allies and partners that participate
22 in secure and resilient supply chains for critical min-
23 erals;

24 (3) to reduce or eliminate reliance and depend-
25 ence on critical mineral supply chains controlled by

1 the People's Republic of China, the Russian Federa-
2 tion, Iran, or any other adversary of the United
3 States;

4 (4) to work with allies and partners on enhance-
5 ing evaluation capability and technology in trusted
6 countries that produce critical minerals to avoid the
7 export of critical minerals, or products or compo-
8 nents that are dependent on critical minerals, that
9 are controlled by adversaries of the United States;

10 (5) to identify and implement market-based in-
11 centives for the purposes of facilitating the creation
12 and maintenance of secure and resilient critical min-
13 eral supply chains, including for reclamation and re-
14 cycling of critical mineral resources from waste
15 streams, in collaboration with allies and partners;

16 (6) to prioritize securing critical mineral supply
17 chains in United States foreign policy, including
18 through the use of economic tools to invest respon-
19 sibly in projects in partner countries in a manner
20 that both benefits local populations and bolsters the
21 supply of critical minerals to the United States and
22 allies and partners of the United States; and

23 (7) that collaboration with allies and partners
24 to build secure and resilient critical mineral supply
25 chains shall not replace United States efforts to in-

1 crease domestic development and production or recy-
2 cling of critical minerals.

3 **SEC. 4. INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO**
4 **PROTECTING CRITICAL MINERAL SUPPLY**
5 **CHAINS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to ne-
7 gotiate an agreement with international partners for the
8 purposes of establishing a coalition—

9 (1) to facilitate—

10 (A) the mining, processing, recycling, and
11 enhanced access to the supply of critical min-
12 erals; and

13 (B) advanced manufacturing that relies on
14 the practical application of critical minerals;
15 and

16 (2) to secure an adequate supply of critical
17 minerals and relevant products, manufacturing in-
18 puts, and components that are heavily dependent on
19 critical mineral resource inputs for the United
20 States and other members of the coalition (in this
21 section referred to as “member countries”).

22 (b) NEGOTIATING OBJECTIVES.—The overall objec-
23 tives for negotiating an agreement described in subsection
24 (a) should be—

1 (1) to establish mechanisms for member coun-
2 tries to build secure and resilient supply chains for
3 critical minerals, including in—

4 (A) the mining, refinement, reclamation
5 and recycling, processing, and valuation of crit-
6 ical minerals; and

7 (B) advanced manufacturing of products,
8 components, and materials that are dependent
9 on critical minerals;

10 (2) to improve economies of scale and joint co-
11 operation with international partners in securing ac-
12 cess and means of production throughout the supply
13 chains of critical minerals and manufacturing proc-
14 esses dependent on critical minerals;

15 (3) to establish mechanisms, with appropriate
16 market-based disciplines, that provide and maintain
17 opportunities among member countries for creating
18 industry economies of scale to attract joint invest-
19 ment among those countries, including—

20 (A) cooperation on joint projects, including
21 cost-sharing on building appropriate infrastruc-
22 ture to access deposits of critical minerals; and

23 (B) creation or enhancement of national
24 and international programs to support the de-
25 velopment of robust industries by providing ap-

1 appropriate sector-specific incentives, such as po-
2 litical risk and other insurance opportunities, fi-
3 nancing, and other support, for—

4 (i) mining and processing critical min-
5 erals;

6 (ii) manufacturing of products, com-
7 ponents, and materials that are dependent
8 on critical minerals and are essential to
9 consumer technology products or have im-
10 portant national security implications;

11 (iii) building capacities and creating
12 incentives for recovering used, spent, or
13 discarded equipment and consumer goods
14 containing critical minerals to be safely
15 handled and recycled; and

16 (iv) associated transportation needs
17 that are tailored to the handling, move-
18 ment, and logistics management of critical
19 minerals and products, components, and
20 materials that are dependent on critical
21 minerals;

22 (4) to establish market-based rules for member
23 countries regarding adoption of qualifying tax and
24 other incentives to stimulate investment, as balanced

1 by market-based disciplines to ensure a fair playing
2 field among those countries;

3 (5) to establish recommended best practices to
4 protect—

5 (A) labor rights;

6 (B) the natural environment and eco-
7 systems near critical mineral industrial sites;

8 (C) safety of communities near critical
9 mineral industrial activities; and

10 (D) supplier diversity;

11 (6) to advance economic growth in developing
12 countries with critical mineral reserves and capac-
13 ities for the recovery and recycling of critical min-
14 erals, including for the benefit of the citizens of
15 those countries;

16 (7) to establish rules allowing for the establish-
17 ment of a consortium that is resourced and empow-
18 ered to bid and compete in acquiring and securing
19 potential deposits of critical minerals in countries
20 that are not members of the coalition described in
21 subsection (a) (in this section referred to as “non-
22 member countries”);

23 (8) to establish a mechanism for joint resource
24 mapping with procedures for equitable sharing of in-

1 formation on potential deposits of critical minerals
2 not less frequently than annually;

3 (9) to establish mechanisms for member coun-
4 tries to recognize and address environmental and re-
5 lated harms caused by mining operations within the
6 territory of a member country; and

7 (10) to improve supply chain security among
8 member countries by providing for national treat-
9 ment investment protections among those countries
10 that are equal to, or better than, the standards in
11 the United States model bilateral investment treaty.

12 (c) CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED.—
13 In the course of negotiations described in subsection (a),
14 the Secretary shall consult closely and on a timely basis
15 with, and keep fully apprised of the negotiations, the Com-
16 mittee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Com-
17 mittee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives.

18 (d) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-
19 tion shall be construed to alter United States domestic
20 law, standards, or processes applicable to critical minerals.

21 **SEC. 5. MINERALS SECURITY PARTNERSHIP AUTHORIZA-**
22 **TION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State, acting
24 through the Under Secretary of State for Economic
25 Growth, Energy, and the Environment, is authorized to

1 lead United States participation in the Minerals Security
2 Partnership, for the following purposes:

3 (1) To identify and support investment and ad-
4 vocate for commercial critical mineral mining, proc-
5 essing, and refining projects that enable robust and
6 secure critical mineral supply chains, in consultation
7 with other Federal agencies, as appropriate.

8 (2) To coordinate with relevant regional bu-
9 reaus to develop regional diplomatic engagement
10 strategies related to critical minerals projects and to
11 identify projects that are priorities.

12 (3) To coordinate with United States missions
13 abroad on projects, programs, and investments that
14 enable robust and secure critical mineral supply
15 chains.

16 (4) To coordinate with current and prospective
17 members of the Minerals Security Partnership.

18 (5) To establish a mechanism for information-
19 sharing with members of the Minerals Security Part-
20 nership.

21 (6) To establish policies and procedures, and if
22 necessary, to provide funding to facilitate coopera-
23 tion on joint projects with members of the Minerals
24 Security Partnership and the Minerals Security
25 Forum, including those related to cost-sharing

1 agreements, political risk insurance, financing, eq-
2 uity investments, and other support, in coordination
3 with other Federal agencies, as appropriate.

4 (7) If an agreement described in section 4 is
5 entered into, to support the establishment of the co-
6 alition described in that section.

7 (b) DATABASE.—As part of the Minerals Security
8 Partnership, the Secretary, acting through the Under Sec-
9 retary, is authorized to establish and maintain a database
10 of critical mineral projects for the purpose of providing
11 high quality and up-to-date information to the private sec-
12 tor and, at the discretion of the Under Secretary, to mem-
13 bers of the Minerals Security Partnership, in order to spur
14 greater investment, increase the resilience of global critical
15 minerals supply chains, and boost United States supply.

16 (c) QUALIFICATIONS FOR PERSONNEL.—With re-
17 spect to staffing personnel to carry out the Minerals Secu-
18 rity Partnership, the Secretary shall prioritize individuals
19 with the following qualifications:

20 (1) Substantive knowledge and experience in
21 issues related to critical minerals supply chain and
22 their application to strategic industries, including in
23 the defense, energy, and technology sectors.

24 (2) Substantive knowledge and experience in
25 large-scale multi-donor project financing and related

1 technical and diplomatic arrangements, international
2 coalition-building, and project management.

3 (3) Substantive knowledge and experience in
4 trade and foreign policy, defense industrial base pol-
5 icy, or national security-sensitive supply chain
6 issues.

7 (d) PRIVATE SECTOR COORDINATION.—The Sec-
8 retary shall ensure close coordination between the Depart-
9 ment of State, the private sector, and relevant civil society
10 groups on the implementation of this section.

11 (e) PROJECT SELECTION.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—The United States, through
13 its participation in the Minerals Security Partner-
14 ship, shall prioritize projects that advance the na-
15 tional and economic security interests of the United
16 States and allies and partners of the United States.

17 (2) CRITERIA REQUIREMENTS.—The United
18 States should advocate for the Minerals Security
19 Partnership to use environmental, human rights,
20 and anticorruption standards, including as criteria
21 for project selection, that are consistent with United
22 States law or international agreements approved by
23 Congress.

1 **SEC. 6. UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP IN THE INTER-**
2 **NATIONAL NICKEL STUDY GROUP.**

3 (a) UNITED STATES MEMBERSHIP.—The President
4 is authorized to accept the Terms of Reference of and
5 maintain membership of the United States in the Inter-
6 national Nickel Study Group.

7 (b) PAYMENTS OF ASSESSED CONTRIBUTIONS.—For
8 fiscal year 2025 and thereafter, the United States as-
9 sessed contributions to the International Nickel Study
10 Group may be paid from funds appropriated for “Con-
11 tributions to International Organizations”.

12 **SEC. 7. REPORT ON CRITICAL MINERAL SUPPLY CHAINS**
13 **AND DIPLOMATIC TOOLS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
15 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,
16 in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal
17 agencies, shall submit to the appropriate congressional
18 committees a report on priority critical minerals and exist-
19 ing diplomatic tools for advancing the critical minerals
20 policies of the United States.

21 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
22 (a) shall—

23 (1) identify, as priority critical minerals, min-
24 erals—

25 (A) that are essential inputs into products
26 critical for national security; and

1 (B) the supply of which are highly con-
2 centrated in or controlled by one country;

3 (2) assess the key opportunities and challenges
4 related to each priority critical mineral identified
5 under paragraph (1);

6 (3) describe the financial, commercial, and de-
7 velopment assistance tools and resources available to
8 advance the critical mineral policies of the United
9 States;

10 (4) describe mechanisms of the United States
11 Government available as of the date of the enact-
12 ment of this Act to support diplomatic efforts, in-
13 cluding the Minerals Security Partnership, to pro-
14 mote the diversification of critical mineral supply
15 chains; and

16 (5) identify the key multilateral institutions en-
17 gaged on critical mineral issues and describe the
18 participation of the United States in those institu-
19 tions.

20 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
21 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
22 sional committees” means—

23 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
24 the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;
25 and

1 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
2 Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the
3 House of Representatives.

4 **SEC. 8. UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY FOR SE-**
5 **CURING CRITICAL MINERALS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
7 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,
8 in consultation with the heads of other relevant Federal
9 agencies, shall develop a strategy for securing the supply
10 chains of a diverse set of critical minerals.

11 (b) ELEMENTS.—The strategy required by subsection
12 (a) shall—

13 (1) include—

14 (A) a review of the roles and responsibil-
15 ities of offices and positions within the Depart-
16 ment of State engaged, as of the date of the en-
17 actment of this Act, in efforts to secure critical
18 mineral supply chains; and

19 (B) processes to ensure that those offices
20 coordinate and deconflict those efforts;

21 (2) leverage utilization of United States finan-
22 cial, commercial, and development assistance tools
23 and resources to advance the critical mineral policies
24 of the United States;

1 (3) include targeted engagement plans for both
2 countries that are allies and partners of the United
3 States and countries with significant proven and es-
4 timated deposits of or processing capacity for min-
5 erals critical to national security interests, including
6 utilizing whole-of-government tools and resources to
7 support those countries beyond critical mineral
8 projects;

9 (4) provide for coordination with relevant Fed-
10 eral agencies to consider restrictions on imports of
11 critical minerals to address both price volatility and
12 incentivize sourcing from trusted suppliers;

13 (5) strengthen collaboration with countries that
14 are allies and partners of the United States, and le-
15 verage the participation of the United States in the
16 key multilateral institutions engaged on critical min-
17 eral issues, in order to diversify the United States
18 supply chain of critical minerals and encourage the
19 participation of the United States in international
20 boards, projects, and standard-making bodies;

21 (6) extend the diplomatic and commercial advo-
22 cacy support of the United States to private sector
23 entities throughout critical mineral supply chains;
24 and

1 (7) facilitate coordination with countries that
2 are allies and partners of the United States—

3 (A) to identify best practices and develop
4 coordinated standards for critical mineral
5 projects;

6 (B) to protect against inhumane labor
7 practices; and

8 (C) to minimize adverse environmental and
9 social impacts from the critical minerals supply
10 chain.

11 (c) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than 210 days
12 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
13 shall brief the appropriate congressional committees on
14 the strategy developed under subsection (a).

15 (d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES
16 DEFINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate con-
17 gressional committees” means—

18 (1) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
19 the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate;
20 and

21 (2) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
22 Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the
23 House of Representatives.

1 **SEC. 9. ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC TOOL TO SUP-**
2 **PORT UNITED STATES PRIVATE SECTOR**
3 **CRITICAL MINERAL PROJECTS ABROAD.**

4 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that United States private sector entities competing
6 for critical mineral projects abroad need support from the
7 United States Government.

8 (b) SUPPORT.—The Secretary of State shall identify
9 an appropriate official or office of the Department of State
10 to establish a mechanism and process for the United
11 States to provide support for critical mineral projects
12 abroad. Such support may include—

13 (1) a mechanism for certifying that critical min-
14 eral projects uphold labor rights and minimize envi-
15 ronmental impacts; and

16 (2) a process for United States private sector
17 entities to engage with United States embassies in
18 foreign countries for support when pursuing critical
19 mineral projects in such countries.