

113th CONGRESS

1st Session

**H. R. 981**

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a global rare earth element assessment, and for other purposes.

**IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**March 6, 2013**

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia (for himself and Mr. MARKEY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

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**A BILL**

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a global rare earth element assessment, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the 'Resource Assessment of Rare Earths Act of 2013' or the 'RARE Act of 2013'.

**SEC. 2. GLOBAL RARE EARTH ELEMENT RESOURCE ASSESSMENT.**

(a) In General- Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey and in coordination with the heads of national geological surveys where available, shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a comprehensive report on global rare earth element resources and potential future global supply. Such report shall use the best available data and include--

- (1) the identity and quantity of individual rare earth elements in known deposits;
- (2) models demonstrating the geologic conditions necessary for the formation, and the variability in composition, of the most significant deposits of rare earth elements;
- (3) regional assessments of the likelihood of occurrence of undiscovered deposits and an estimate of the quantity of rare earth elements thought to be present;

(4) recommendations, developed in consultation with other appropriate agencies, on areas of need for future geologic research related to--

(A) rare earth elements; and

(B) other minerals that are critical based on the impact of a potential supply restriction and the likelihood of a supply restriction; and

(5) analysis, developed with participation by the National Minerals Information Center and in consultation with appropriate agencies, of the rare earth elements supply chain and associated processes and products, including mining, processing, separation, metal production, alloy production, and manufacturing of products sold to end users.

(b) Rare Earth Element- In this section the term `rare earth element' means--

(1) any element in the lanthanides group of elements, which consists of lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, promethium, samarium, europium, gadolinium, terbium, dysprosium, holmium, erbium, thulium, ytterbium, and lutetium;

(2) yttrium; and

(3) scandium.

(c) Authorization of Appropriations- There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2014 through 2016.

*END*