

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

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Sectional Analysis

House Bill 177, Version A

“An Act relating to critical and essential minerals and the global energy transition.”

Section 1, Subsection (a) – Page 1, Lines 3-15 & Page 2, Lines 1-4

Subsection (a) of HB 177 adds a new section of uncodified law to direct the Office of the Governor to develop a plan for the state to encourage exploration, production, and refining of the minerals needed to support emerging renewable energy technologies.

The plan must specifically identify strategies to attract industry investment and position the state’s critical mineral production at the center of U.S. production and manufacturing initiatives employing critical minerals. The plan must also review the impacts of various regulatory frameworks on mineral development.

Section 1, Subsection (b) – Page 2, Lines 5-18

Subsection (b) of HB 177 directs the Department of Natural Resources to provide a report to the Legislature by the start of the legislative session in January 2026 that compares the state’s current mineral production and potential future production to national and global production of critical and essential minerals.

The report must identify strategies to increase industry exploration and state production of critical and essential minerals in the next three, five, and 10 years. The report must also compare the state’s permitting timelines and exploration incentives to those in other jurisdictions.

The department may consult with other state and federal agencies, the University of Alaska, industry representatives, and advocacy organizations to compile the required information for the report.

Section 1, Subsection (c) – Page 2, Lines 19-31 & Page 3, Line 1

Subsection (c) of HB 177 directs the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to provide a report to the Legislature by the start of the legislative session in January 2026

that identifies the state's role in the global energy transition. The report must include the potential role of Alaska's mineral resources in the supply chain for electric batteries, solar panels, wind turbines, and consumer devices.

The department may consult with the appropriate state and federal agencies to compile the required information for the report.

The report must include the value of the state's location in the global supply chain and identify strategies for in-state innovation, manufacturing, and transportation for the next three, five, and 10 years.