

SENATE BILL NO. 118

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY SENATORS MERRICK, Bjorkman, Dunbar, Kaufman, Kawasaki, Myers, Shower, Bishop, Stedman, Wilson

Introduced: 3/29/23

Referred: Resources

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to critical and essential minerals and the global energy transition."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 * **Section 1.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section
4 to read:

5 **PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CRITICAL AND ESSENTIAL MINERALS.** (a)
6 The Office of the Governor shall consider emerging technologies for renewable energy and
7 the technologies' necessary components, consider mineral economics and development and
8 production regulatory frameworks at all levels of government, and develop a strategic plan for
9 the state to produce critical and essential minerals. The plan must identify

10 (1) strategies to position state production of critical and essential minerals at
11 the center of United States production and manufacturing to implement the global energy
12 transition;

13 (2) the state's ability to develop renewable energy emerging technologies and
14 the technologies' required components; and

15 (3) the impacts of different regulatory frameworks on mineral development.

1 (b) Not later than the first day of the Second Regular Session of the Thirty-Fourth
2 Alaska State Legislature, the Department of Natural Resources shall provide a report to the
3 legislature comparing the state's production to national and global production of critical and
4 essential minerals, including lithium, copper, tin, gold, uranium, platinum, cobalt, graphite,
5 nickel, silver, zinc, manganese, molybdenum, and chromium. When developing the report, the
6 Department of Natural Resources may consult with appropriate state and federal agencies, the
7 University of Alaska, industry representatives, and advocacy organizations. The report must
8 identify strategies to increase state production and development of critical and essential
9 minerals in the next three, five, and 10 years. The report must compare the state's permitting
10 timelines and exploration incentives with the permitting timelines and exploration incentives
11 in other jurisdictions. The commissioner of natural resources shall submit the report to the
12 senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the legislature that
13 the report is available.

14 (c) Not later than the first day of the Second Regular Session of the Thirty-Fourth
15 Alaska State Legislature, the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic
16 Development shall provide a report to the legislature identifying the state's role in innovation,
17 manufacturing, and transportation to support the global energy transition. The report must
18 analyze the potential role of state goods in supply chains critical to the global energy
19 transition, including the potential use of state goods in electric batteries, solar panels, wind
20 turbines, and connected consumer devices. When developing the report, the Department of
21 Commerce, Community, and Economic Development may consult with appropriate state and
22 federal agencies. The report must evaluate whether the state's location is valuable in the
23 global supply chain and identify strategies for the next three, five, and 10 years to develop
24 state innovation, manufacturing, and transportation. The commissioner of commerce,
25 community, and economic development shall submit the report to the senate secretary and
26 chief clerk of the house of representatives and notify the legislature that the report is
27 available.