

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 118(FIN)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/19/24

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATORS MERRICK, Bjorkman, Dunbar, Kaufman, Kawasaki, Myers, Shower, Bishop, Stedman, Wilson

REPRESENTATIVES Saddler, Cronk, Schrage, Galvin, Tomaszewski, Sumner, Baker, McCabe, Armstrong, Stapp, Wright

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to critical and essential minerals."**

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 STRATEGIC PLAN FOR CRITICAL AND ESSENTIAL MINERALS; REPORT. (a)

6 It is the intent of the legislature that the state develop a strategy to encourage exploration,
7 development, production, refining, and value-added manufacturing of critical and essential
8 minerals in the state. When considering mineral economics and development and production
9 regulatory frameworks at all levels of government, the strategy must

10 (1) position state production of critical and essential minerals at the center of
11 production in the United States;

12 (2) support development of emerging technologies and the manufacturing of
13 the required components;

14 (3) consider the effects of different regulatory frameworks on development of
15 critical and essential minerals in the state; and

1 (4) maintain the state's existing environmental standards.

2 (b) Not later than the first day of the Second Regular Session of the Thirty-Fourth
3 Alaska State Legislature, the Department of Natural Resources shall provide a report to the
4 legislature comparing the state's current production and potential future production to national
5 and global production of critical and essential minerals. When determining which minerals are
6 critical and essential, the department may rely on the most recent critical minerals lists
7 published by the United States Department of Energy, the United States Department of
8 Defense, and the United States Department of the Interior, Geological Survey. When
9 developing the report, the Department of Natural Resources may consult with appropriate
10 state and federal agencies, the University of Alaska, industry representatives, and Native
11 corporations. The report must identify strategies to increase industry exploration for and state
12 production and development of critical and essential minerals in the next three, five, and 10
13 years. The report must compare the state's permitting timelines and exploration incentives
14 with the permitting timelines and exploration incentives in other jurisdictions. The
15 commissioner of natural resources shall post the report on the department's Internet website
16 and submit the report to the senate secretary and chief clerk of the house of representatives
17 and notify the legislature that the report is available.

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