



November 27, 2017

Rep Paul Gosar  
Chairman  
Western Caucus  
2057 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Rep. Gosar and the Western Caucus:

Conservatives for Property Rights, a coalition of conservative and libertarian organizations that stands for private property rights, supports H.R. 3905, the Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act (MINER Act).

This legislation would remedy the broad bureaucratic discretion that led to unilateral government action limiting private mineral rights on several hundred-thousand acres of land in the Superior National Forest in northeastern Minnesota. The government's limitation on reasonable public lands use deprives the nation, the state of Minnesota, and surrounding localities of important benefits from valuable deposits of copper, nickel, and other minerals. Royalty revenues upward of \$3 billion for the state's school fund alone will be lost should the government's land grab not be reversed.

Further, it is vital to the interests of the American people and the United States that, to the greatest extent practicable, our natural resources be commercially exploited and the nation derive tangible benefits from the wise use of our public lands. Congress should start rebalancing our public lands usage policy with H.R. 3905.

Sincerely,

James Edwards  
Executive Director