



H.R. 3905 Minnesota's Economic Rights in the Superior National Forest Act

“With the potential to bring jobs to Minnesota for decades to come, we must get government out of the way so that leases can be renewed, studies can be conducted, and Minnesotans can ensure the safe, responsible, and precise development of all that our great state has to offer.” – Rep. Tom Emmer (MN-06)

BILL SUMMARY:

Introduced by Rep. Tom Emmer (R-MN), H.R. 3905 is a bipartisan bill to spur economic growth and job creation through the responsible development of mineral resources in Minnesota's Superior National Forest.

BACKGROUND:

The Twin Metals Minnesota Project is a prospective underground mine operation located in a portion of the Superior National Forest that is expected to create 650 direct and 1,300 indirect jobs. Leases to develop the area were granted in 1966 and renewed in 1989 and 2004. In 2016, the Obama administration unilaterally rescinded the leases and proposed to withdraw these areas and others from development for 20 years.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- H.R. 3905 reverses the unwarranted actions taken under the Obama administration to unilaterally block responsible mineral development in the Superior National Forest.
- H.R. 3905 prevents executive overreach by requiring Congressional approval of all mineral or monument withdrawals within National Forest System lands in Minnesota.
- H.R. 3905 protects responsible mining operations in Minnesota to spur economic growth and job creation.
- H.R. 3905 protects Minnesota's forests, lakes and streams by reasserting that any mining project satisfy all existing environmental permitting requirements.

SUPPORT:

National Mining Association; American Exploration & Mining Association; Minnesota Chamber of Commerce; Local Chambers of Commerce; Associated General Contractors of Minnesota; Range Area Municipalities & Schools; ALLETE, Inc.; North Central States Regional Council of Carpenters; United Brotherhood of Carpenters; Mining Minnesota; Better In Our Back Yard; Grand Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce; International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers; Jobs for Minnesota.