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Yavapai County Board of Supervisors

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10 S. 6th Street, Cottonwood, Az. 86326

Supervisor Thom

District

November 27, 2017

Hon. Congressman Paul Gosar
2057 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Gosar,

As a four term Yavapai County Supervisor and Board Chairman, I support H.R. 3905, the "Minnesota's Economic Rights (MINER) in the Superior National Forest Act," bipartisan legislation.

I appreciate your work in economic development and job creation in rural Arizona and your constant vigilance on federal overreach. Therefore, it makes sense to support H.R. 3905 which aims to correct the injustices being thrust upon the Iron Range by requiring congressional approval of any mineral withdrawal or monument designation involving the National Forest System lands in the State of Minnesota. I understand it will also provide for the renewal of certain mineral leases and ensure future leases in the area remain valid and renewed as outlined by current law. Also, H.R. 3905 changes no environmental review processes, relaxes no environmental standards, and specifically restates Congress' prohibition on any mining activity in the BWCAW and surrounding protective buffer.

I am confident H.R. 3905 would reaffirm long-standing Congressional intent in the management and development of critical minerals in Minnesota, eliminate bureaucratic delays in developing environmentally-responsible mine projects proposals, and restore the promise of future job growth and economic opportunity to an economically distressed region of the state.

Respectfully,

Thomas Thurman, Dist. 2 Supervisor
Yavapai County