

Section by Section

The DOMINANCE Act (Developing Overseas Mineral Investments and New Allied Networks for Critical Energies)

Introduced by Representatives Young Kim and Ami Bera

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

This section establishes the short title of the bill as the “Developing Overseas Mineral Investments and New Allied Networks for Critical Energies Act” or the “DOMINANCE Act”.

Sec. 2. Findings and purpose.

This subsection lists the key facts, issues, or problems that Congress has identified which justify the need for the legislation.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

This section defines key terms used throughout the bill (like “critical mineral,” “department,” etc.).

TITLE I—MINERALS SECURITY PARTNERSHIP AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 101. International cooperation to secure critical minerals supply chains.

This section directs the U.S. to work with allies and partners to build secure, resilient critical mineral supply chains while reducing reliance on strategic competitors, promoting domestic production and recycling, and using economic and diplomatic tools to support fair, transparent, and sustainable markets. It also authorizes the President to negotiate international agreements to coordinate mining, processing, manufacturing, investment, and environmental and labor standards among coalition countries, with congressional consultation required.

Sec. 102. Minerals Security Partnership authorization.

This section authorizes the Secretary of State, through the Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment, to lead U.S. participation in the Minerals Security Partnership (MSP) to coordinate international investment, projects, and policies that secure

critical mineral supply chains. It establishes mechanisms for information sharing, project selection, private sector and civil society coordination, staffing, and databases, while ensuring compliance with confidentiality, environmental, and governance standards.

Sec. 103. United States membership in the International Nickel Study Group.

This section authorizes the President to join the International Nickel Study Group and to accept its Terms of Reference. It also allows U.S. contributions to the organization to be paid from funds appropriated under the United Nations Participation Act starting in fiscal year 2026.

Sec. 104. United States diplomatic strategy for securing critical minerals.

This section requires the Secretary of State, in consultation with other federal agencies, to develop a diplomatic strategy within 180 days to secure diverse critical mineral supply chains, ensuring coordinated efforts across offices, leveraging U.S. financial and development tools, and addressing labor, environmental, and social impacts. The Secretary must brief Congress on the strategy within 210 days of enactment.

Sec. 104. Establishment of diplomatic tools to support United States private sector critical mineral projects abroad.

This section expresses Congress's view that U.S. companies need government support to compete in overseas critical mineral projects and directs the State Department to create a process through designated offices and U.S. embassies to support such projects, including certification of labor and environmental standards.

TITLE II—ENERGY SECURITY COMPACTS

Sec. 201. Energy security compacts.

This section authorizes the Secretary to establish multi-year “Energy Security Compacts” with partner countries using existing economic assistance funds to strengthen shared energy and economic security, including by diversifying critical mineral and energy supply chains and countering economic coercion. It also sets rules for funding transfers, oversight, reporting, and implementation assistance, while prohibiting military aid, projects that harm U.S. jobs or safety, and conflicts of interest.

Sec. 202. Office of Energy Security Compacts.

This section establishes the Office of Energy Security Compacts, led by a Director responsible for administering, negotiating, and managing Energy Security Compacts, coordinating with U.S. agencies and international partners, and overseeing proposals and funding. It also authorizes

staffing flexibilities, personnel details, and reporting to Congress on plans to recruit and retain qualified civil service officers, with the authority set to terminate 10 years after enactment.

Sec. 203. Energy security compact structure.

This section establishes the framework for Energy Security Compacts, which aim to increase reliable access to energy, electricity, and critical minerals to promote economic growth, private sector investment, and U.S. commercial competitiveness. It specifies the planning process, required elements (including objectives, responsibilities, benchmarks, financial plans, donor coordination, transparency, and sustainability), eligibility criteria, approval processes, duration limits, and reporting requirements, while prohibiting taxation on U.S. assistance.

Sec. 204. Energy Security Compacts Council.

This section establishes the Energy Security Compacts Council, chaired by the Secretary of State and composed of principal officers from key U.S. agencies, to coordinate, implement, and oversee Energy Security Compacts. The Council is required to meet at least quarterly, make recommendations on eligible countries and interagency collaboration, and operate in compliance with the Government in the Sunshine Act.

Sec. 205. Congressional notification.

This section requires the Director for Energy Security Compacts to notify Congress, provide the full text, and give an in-person briefing to the appropriate committees at least 30 days before the United States enters into any Energy Security Compact. It ensures congressional oversight and consultation prior to finalizing such agreements.

Sec. 206. Government Accountability Office.

This section requires the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to evaluate Energy Security Compact-supported projects and submit a report to Congress on their efficiency and development impact not later than two years after enactment, and annually thereafter.

TITLE III—DEPARTMENT OF STATE AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 301. Assistant Secretary for Energy Security and Diplomacy.

This section authorizes the creation of an Assistant Secretary for Energy Security and Diplomacy in the State Department, responsible for leading the formulation and implementation of international energy, energy technology, and critical mineral policies, coordinating with other

U.S. agencies, protecting U.S. energy and economic security, and promoting secure, diversified global energy and critical mineral supply chains. The Assistant Secretary is also required to report to Congress on staffing, resource allocation, and annual progress on U.S. international energy strategy.

Sec. 302. Bureau of Energy Security and Diplomacy.

This section establishes the Bureau of Energy Security and Diplomacy within the State Department, led by the Assistant Secretary, to implement international energy, energy technology, and critical mineral policies. It authorizes expedited hiring and flexible pay for employees with relevant expertise during the first year, prioritizes reappointment of former Bureau staff affected by the 2025 reduction-in-force, and expresses that the Assistant Secretary should participate in White House-led interagency groups coordinating U.S. energy and critical mineral supply chain policy.

Sec. 303. Critical Minerals Mining Fellowship Program.

This section establishes a Critical Minerals Mining Fellowship Program that trains U.S. students in advanced mining studies abroad to build a skilled workforce, strengthen the domestic critical minerals supply chain, and advance U.S. foreign policy and competitiveness. Fellows participate in research, practical training, and professional development, with full support for tuition, living, and research expenses.

Sec. 304. Visiting Mining Scholars Program.

This section The Visiting Mining Scholars Program, which brings foreign mining academics and professionals to U.S. universities to expand mining education, support workforce development, advance research, and foster collaboration between U.S. and international mining institutions. Scholars receive placement at approved institutions, mentorship, and living allowances, while contributing to curriculum development, research, and outreach.

Sec. 305. Amendment to the Mutual and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

This section formally adds the Critical Mineral Mining Fellowship Program and the Visiting Mining Scholars Program to the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, recognizing them as official U.S. programs that fund international exchange for mining students and professionals.

Sec. 301. Definitions.

This subsection defines key terms related to mining and education for the purposes of the Act, including “higher education institution,” “advanced degree,” “mining industry” (covering all stages from exploration to recycling), “mining education program,” “mining profession,” and “critical mineral” (including gold and copper).