



NEWS

RARE, The Association for Rare Earth

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RARE praises passage of the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2012

United States House of Representatives vote is vital to national security and job creation

(WASHINGTON) – RARE, The Association for Rare Earth today praised the bipartisan passage of the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2012 (H.R. 4402). The legislation, intended to streamline the permitting process for critical minerals, is one of the top priorities for RARE. Rare earth elements are among the critical minerals whose production will be aided by passage of the bill.

RARE's President and CEO **Adam Falkoff** said, "The National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act is perhaps the most significant job creation bill to be brought to the floor this year. Passage of this legislation is an important step toward recovering the 22,000 rare earth-related jobs the U.S. has lost since the 1980s."

Continued **Falkoff**, "In addition to aiding national security and job creation, this bill supports the renewable energy sector, including the solar and wind industries that rely heavily on rare earths to manufacture their products."

Rare earth minerals are crucial for the production of flat panel televisions, smart phones, computing tablets, wind turbines, solar panels, MRIs and PET scanners, guided missiles, and much more. Because China controls 95% of the world's production of rare earth minerals and is tightening its control on these vital resources, the United States – for reasons that include national security – is working to ensure there is viable and sustainable domestic production capacity.

About RARE, The Association for Rare Earth. RARE is a bipartisan organization that seeks to increase the production of rare earth elements; remove barriers to access of rare earth elements domestically and internationally; increase the affordability and trade of rare earth minerals; and increase the affordability and availability of technologically and environmentally advanced products made with rare earth minerals – all for the betterment of people's lives and the environment in which they live.

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