

HB 2510 -- CRITICAL MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

SPONSOR: Steinmeyer

This bill establishes the "Missouri Critical Minerals Development and Security Act", and creates Sections 256.900 to 256.910, RSMo.

The bill directs the Missouri Geological Survey within the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to conduct statewide mapping and assessment of critical mineral resources and to coordinate with federal and state agencies as necessary.

The bill creates the "Missouri Critical Minerals Task Force" within DNR to develop a statewide strategy for critical minerals development. Membership requirements of the Task Force are detailed in the bill, including a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House, and a member of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tem, as well as representatives from state agencies, industry, and higher education. The Task Force duties are outlined in the bill including the requirement to submit an annual report to the General Assembly beginning December 1, 2027.

The bill establishes the "Missouri Critical Minerals Development and Security Program" within the Department of Economic Development and authorizes the Department to administer the Program, subject to appropriation. Eligible applicants include mining operators, mineral processors, advanced manufactures, universities and research partnerships, local governments, and public-private collaborations. Grant funds can be used for exploration, processing workforce development, research, modernization, and projects leveraging Federal matching funds.

Further, the bill creates the "Missouri Critical Minerals Development and Security Program Fund" within the State Treasury. Moneys in the Fund must not revert to General Revenue Fund and can be used only for purposes of the Program.

The bill authorizes the use of targeted, performance-based incentives related to critical minerals development and permits rulemaking subject to Chapter 536.

The provisions of this bill will sunset five years after the effective date unless reauthorized by the General Assembly.