



Materials Research Society

Advancing materials. Improving the quality of life.

July 18, 2014

Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Johnson
House Science, Space, and Technology Committee
United States House of Representatives
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Johnson:

On behalf of the Materials Research Society, we are writing to endorse H.R.1022, the Energy Critical Elements Act of 2014. We support the bill that has been developed by Rep. Swalwell and believe this legislation will enhance the future U.S. position in critical minerals and materials.

The Materials Research Society completed a policy study with the American Physical Society in late 2010 on "Energy Critical Elements" including rare earth and other critical elements that impact rapidly growing energy applications. This proposed House legislation, H.R. 1022, includes recommendations for federal actions that are very consistent with this policy study.

Critical minerals and materials are essential to the energy, defense, medical, and commercial sectors of the U.S. economy. Understanding the availability, processing, research, and recycling issues associated with critical minerals and alternative materials while respecting their impact on the environment are important topics for our country.

We are very appreciative of the Committee's desire to advance this legislation, and we encourage mark up and passage in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Tia Benson Tolle, PhD
MRS President

cc:
Representative Eric Swalwell
House Speaker John Boehner
House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi

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