

Independent Women Applauds House Introduction of Securing Critical Minerals Act

April 30, 2025

U.S. House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Guthrie Ranking Member Pallone

Energy Subcommittee Chairman Latta Ranking Member Castor

Dear Chairmen Guthrie and Latta and Ranking Members Pallone and Castor,

On behalf of Independent Women, I strongly applaud the House of Representatives for introducing the <u>Securing America's Critical Minerals</u> <u>Supply Act</u> by Rep. John James (R-MI). Independent Women fights for women and their loved ones by effectively expanding support for policy solutions that aren't just well-intended but actually enhance people's freedom, opportunities, and well-being.

There's a growing demand for sourcing and refining critical minerals and rare earth elements (REE) here in the U.S. These essential components are necessary for computer chips, batteries, petroleum refining, defense capabilities, touchscreens, and other uses.

The Chinese Communist Party (CCP) has dominated this industry since the **1990s**, now producing **60%** of the global supply and processing **90%** of REE. Per the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) <u>Mineral Commodity Summaries</u> 2025 report, the U.S. "was 100% net import reliant for 12 of the 50 individually listed critical minerals" and "more than 50% net import reliant for an additional 28 critical mineral commodities." Therefore, China's continued dominance here would further undermine supply chains and threaten our national security interests.

For all these reasons, we urge Congress to work toward the swift passage of this legislation. Independent Women thanks Representative James for his leadership on this issue.

Respectfully,

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Gabriella Hoffman Director, Center for Energy and Conservation Independent Women's Voice