



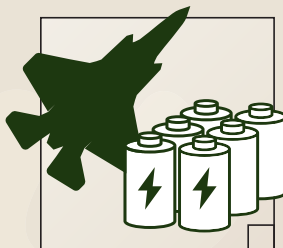
Strategic Importance of Georgia's Mining Industry to National Security

GEORGIA'S MINING INDUSTRY IS CRITICAL TO U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY, PROVIDING MINERALS ESSENTIAL TO DEFENSE EQUIPMENT, TECHNOLOGY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE.

With China dominating global critical mineral production and processing, reducing America's reliance on foreign sources is a key priority of President Trump.

HB 561 and HB 562 threaten Trump's America First agenda and weaken national security by potentially eliminating the possibility to mine one of the few areas in America that are ripe with critical minerals and rare earth elements (REE).

+ STRATEGIC ROLE OF GEORGIA'S MINING INDUSTRY



- ▶ **The Trail Ridge is ripe with critical minerals and REE** that are the essential building blocks of products vital to national security, from engines and airplanes to defense equipment and more. They're also vital for EV batteries and clean energy technologies.

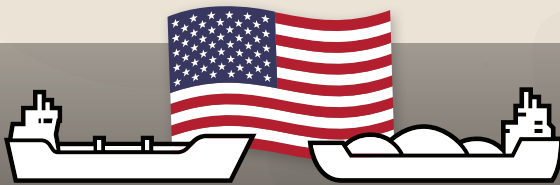


- ▶ **Georgia is only 1 of 2 states extracting rare earth elements and critical minerals** as byproducts of mineral sands mining, helping reduce U.S. reliance on China.

The China Threat: President Trump Hits Back



PRESIDENT TRUMP RECENTLY DECLARED A NATIONAL EMERGENCY TO REDUCE RELIANCE ON CHINESE MINERALS.



The U.S. is **100% net import reliant** for 12 of 50 critical minerals and 50%+ net reliant for 29 other critical minerals¹.



China produces **about 60%** of critical minerals² and processes **nearly 90%** of REE³, leaving our critical mineral supply chain in the hands of foreign adversaries.

+ ECONOMIC IMPACT IN GEORGIA



- ▶ The industry supports more than **36,500 high-paying jobs** statewide and contributes **\$4.1 billion annually** in state GDP.
- ▶ Mining wages average **\$86,529 per year**, about **26% above** the state average.

+ LEGISLATORS MUST OPPOSE HB 561/562 TO SAFEGUARD NATIONAL SECURITY & GEORGIA'S ECONOMY



- ▶ Georgia has the potential to help secure America's critical mineral supply and decrease reliance on China by stopping HB 561 and 562 and supporting the responsible mining of critical minerals and REEs locally in Georgia.

¹ CRS, *Critical Mineral Resources: The USGS Role in Research and Analysis*, 2024

² IEA, *Energy Technology Perspectives Report*, 2023

³ IEA, *The Role of Critical Minerals in Clean Energy Transitions*, 2021