

HR 4748

Mineral Exploration and Development Act of 2002

Congress: 107 (2001–2003, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: May 16, 2002

Current Status: Executive Comment Requested from Interior.

Latest Action: Executive Comment Requested from Interior. (Jun 6, 2002)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/107th-congress/house-bill/4748>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Rahall, Nick J., II [D-WV-3]

Party: Democratic • State: WV • Chamber: House

Cosponsors (20 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Del. Faleomavaega, Eni F. H. [D-AS-At Large]	D · AS		May 16, 2002
Rep. Inslee, Jay [D-WA-1]	D · WA		May 16, 2002
Rep. Kind, Ron [D-WI-3]	D · WI		May 16, 2002
Rep. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		May 16, 2002
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]	D · CA		May 16, 2002
Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. [D-NJ-6]	D · NJ		May 16, 2002
Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]	R · CT		May 16, 2002
Rep. Udall, Mark [D-CO-2]	D · CO		May 16, 2002
Rep. Udall, Tom [D-NM-3]	D · NM		May 16, 2002
Rep. Barrett, Thomas M. [D-WI-5]	D · WI		May 23, 2002
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		May 23, 2002
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-26]	D · NY		May 23, 2002
Rep. Kildee, Dale E. [D-MI-9]	D · MI		May 23, 2002
Rep. McKinney, Cynthia A. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		May 23, 2002
Rep. McCarthy, Karen [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Jul 15, 2002
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Jul 15, 2002
Rep. McDermott, Jim [D-WA-7]	D · WA		Jul 15, 2002
Rep. Wu, David [D-OR-1]	D · OR		Jul 15, 2002
Rep. Velazquez, Nydia M. [D-NY-12]	D · NY		Oct 1, 2002
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-29]	D · CA		Oct 21, 2002

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Jun 6, 2002

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

### Related Bills

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*No related bills are listed.*

### Summary (as of May 16, 2002)

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Mineral Exploration and Development Act of 2002 - Sets forth guidelines for mineral exploration and development on public domain lands. Declares, under certain conditions, that holders of mining claims executed under this Act have the exclusive right of possession and use of the claimed land for mineral activities.

Subjects existing and/or future unpatented mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites, with specified exceptions, to an annual claim maintenance fee payable to the Secretary of the Interior in lieu of the assessment work requirement contained in the general mining laws and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

Exempts from the mandated fee any claimants holding ten or fewer mining claims who elect to perform the assessment work.

Requires locators of unpatented mining claims, mill sites, and tunnel sites located after this Act's enactment to pay a location fee.

Imposes penalties against holders of mining claims for noncompliance with this Act.

Requires, with respect to environmental considerations of mineral exploration and development on public domain lands: (1) a permit, with exceptions, to engage in mineral activities on Federal land that may cause a disturbance of surface resources; (2) an operations permit to carry out any activity greater than casual use; (3) denial of permits to persons who are in violation of this Act; and (4) operation and reclamation standards.

Establishes the Abandoned Locatable Minerals Mine Reclamation Fund in the Treasury.

Amends the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 and the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980 to revise the Secretary of Agriculture's responsibilities within the scope of this Act.

Requires the Secretaries of the Interior and of Agriculture to establish and collect user fees from persons subject to this Act's requirements.

Repeals the Building Stone Act and the Saline Placer Act.

Applies this Act to beneficiation and processing of non-Federal minerals on Federal lands.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Jun 6, 2002:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Jun 6, 2002:** Executive Comment Requested from Interior.
- **May 17, 2002:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E832-833)
- **May 16, 2002:** Introduced in House
- **May 16, 2002:** Introduced in House
- **May 16, 2002:** Referred to the House Committee on Resources