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Bill Fact Sheet - December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/109/s/97

S 97

Big Horn Bentonite Act

Congress: 109 (2005–2007, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Public Lands and Natural Resources

Introduced: Jan 24, 2005

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. (Aug 2, 2005)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/109th-congress/senate-bill/97

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Enzi, Michael B. [R-WY]

Party: Republican • State: WY • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Reported By	Mar 14, 2005
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Aug 2, 2005

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Public Lands and Natural Resources

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The expanded summary of the Senate reported version is repeated here.)

Big Horn Bentonite Act - (Sec. 3) Authorizes the Secretary of the Interior (with the consent of the Secretary of the Army) to permit mining and removal of bentonite on certain land previously withdrawn for military purposes in Big Horn County, Wyoming.

Directs the Secretary to enter into a sole-source mining and removal of bentonite contract that provides for payment to the Secretary of \$1.00 per ton of bentonite removed from such land.

Sets forth contract terms and conditions.

(Sec. 4) Requires the Secretary, upon notification by the Secretary of the Army that closure of the land is required for purposes of either national emergency, national defense, or national security, to: (1) order the suspension of such authorized mining activity; and (2) close the land until the Secretary of the Army signals that the closure is no longer necessary.

Shields both Secretaries from liability for damages resulting from such closure.

Actions Timeline

- Aug 2, 2005: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- Jul 27, 2005: Received in the House.
- Jul 27, 2005: Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- Jul 27, 2005: Referred to the House Committee on Resources.
- Jul 26, 2005: Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S9018-9052; text as passed Senate: CR S9039)
- Jul 26, 2005: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S9018-9052; text as passed Senate: CR S9039)
- Mar 14, 2005: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Domenici without amendment. With written report No. 109-37.
- Mar 14, 2005: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Reported by Senator Domenici without amendment. With written report No. 109-37.
- Mar 14, 2005: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 52.
- Feb 16, 2005: Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- Jan 24, 2005: Introduced in Senate
- Jan 24, 2005: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.