

S 3571

Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2022

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Environmental Protection

Introduced: Feb 3, 2022

Current Status: Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water. Hearings held.

Latest Action: Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water. Hearings held. (Sep 29, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/3571>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Heinrich, Martin [D-NM]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NM • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]	R · WY		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Bennet, Michael F. [D-CO]	D · CO		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Crapo, Mike [R-ID]	R · ID		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Daines, Steve [R-MT]	R · MT		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM]	D · NM		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Risch, James E. [R-ID]	R · ID		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Tester, Jon [D-MT]	D · MT		Feb 3, 2022
Sen. Cortez Masto, Catherine [D-NV]	D · NV		Feb 10, 2022
Sen. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY]	R · WY		Feb 10, 2022
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Mar 2, 2022
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 2, 2022
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Mar 2, 2022
Sen. Sullivan, Dan [R-AK]	R · AK		Mar 2, 2022
Sen. Hickenlooper, John W. [D-CO]	D · CO		Jun 16, 2022
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		Jun 16, 2022
Sen. Boozman, John [R-AR]	R · AR		Sep 27, 2022
Sen. Rosen, Jacky [D-NV]	D · NV		Sep 27, 2022
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Sep 29, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Sep 29, 2022
Environment and Public Works Committee	Senate	Hearings By (subcommittee)	Sep 29, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Feb 3, 2022)

Good Samaritan Remediation of Abandoned Hardrock Mines Act of 2022

This bill promotes the remediation of abandoned hardrock mine sites by Good Samaritans. A *Good Samaritan* means a person that is (1) not a past or current owner or operator of the abandoned site; (2) had no role in the creation of the historic mine residue; and (3) is not potentially liable under any law for the remediation, treatment, or control of the historic mine residue.

The bill requires the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish a Good Samaritan pilot program. Under the program, the EPA may issue permits to allow Good Samaritans to remediate historic mine residue at abandoned hardrock mine sites without assuming liability under specified environmental laws for past, present, or future releases, threats of releases, or discharges of hazardous substances or other contaminants at or from the abandoned mine site.

In addition, the bill establishes a Good Samaritan Mine Remediation Fund for land management agencies that authorize Good Samaritans to conduct remediation projects on federal land.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 29, 2022:** Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Chemical Safety, Waste Management, Environmental Justice, and Regulatory Oversight. Hearings held.
- **Sep 29, 2022:** Committee on Environment and Public Works Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, and Water. Hearings held.
- **Feb 3, 2022:** Introduced in Senate
- **Feb 3, 2022:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.