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## House approves bill to streamline mining on US land

The House of Representatives passed the National Strategic and Critical Mineral Production Act, in a 246-178 vote. If enacted, the bill will expedite government review of gold, silver, copper, and uranium mining on federal land. Supporters of the bill suggest the bill will help create jobs by reducing waiting periods for new mining projects, which can linger up to 10 years; opponents suggest that it would weaken environmental protections. The bill proposes to accept state review over federal environmental review and sets a 60-day limit to file legal challenges. The bill still awaits consideration and approval by both the Senate and President before becoming law.

Sources: House Republican Conference; Library of Congress

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