



H.R. 9640 - Earth MRI Reauthorization Act of 2026

Modernize Earth MRI

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) launched the Earth Mapping Resources Initiative (MRI) initiative in 2019 to expand domestic geologic mapping and geophysical survey capabilities. This bill expands the technologies authorized under Earth MRI to include advanced geophysical surveying, digital geochemistry, real-time data collection, and data-driven analytical methods. These tools will improve the identification and characterization of critical minerals while also supporting assessments of geothermal resources, natural hydrogen, and other valuable subsurface resources.

As Congress and this administration work to strengthen domestic supply chains for critical minerals, reduce dependence on foreign adversaries, and support American manufacturing, Congressman Wittman recognizes that responsible resource development begins with reliable data.

The bill would also expand the program to include geologic hydrogen, an emerging domestic energy resource that is attracting growing scientific and commercial interest.

Improve Data Integration

The legislation incorporates the **USGS 3D Hydrography Program** into Earth MRI's data integration efforts, strengthening coordination across USGS programs and providing a more complete understanding of the nation's geologic and hydrologic resources.

Reauthorize Funding

The bill authorizes **\$84 million** for Earth MRI for **fiscal years 2027 through 2031**, providing the certainty needed for long-term mapping projects and partnerships with state geological surveys.

Why It Matters

Earth MRI provides the scientific data necessary to strengthen domestic critical mineral supply chains and reduce reliance on foreign sources of strategic minerals. By modernizing mapping technologies and extending the program, the bill supports informed resource development, advances U.S. energy and mineral security, and ensures policymakers have access to high-quality geologic data for future decision-making.

Bill Text

The bill text can be found [here](#).

Senator Murkowski has introduced companion legislation in the Senate linked [here](#).

Contact

If you have any questions about the bill or wish to add your Boss as a co-sponsor, please reach out to Daniel Elizalde at daniel.elizalde@mail.house.gov.