
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 4402

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Representatives Abell, Dye, and Graham

Read first time 01/28/25. Referred to Committee on Technology, Economic Development, & Veterans.

1 WHEREAS, Washington state is determined to lead a resurgence of
2 domestic manufacturing capabilities in fields of strategic
3 consequence to America and its allies; and

4 WHEREAS, The prosperity and security of Washington and the
5 Pacific Northwest Region will require development of a supply chain
6 of critical materials, including raw materials needed for specific
7 applications in advanced computing and data storage, clean energy and
8 transportation, and defense technologies; and

9 WHEREAS, In 2015, the Washington State Legislature formed and
10 invested in a Joint Center for Deployment and Research in Earth
11 Abundant Materials (JCDREAM) to accelerate the development of next-
12 generation clean energy and transportation technologies in Washington
13 state and to increase awareness of critical minerals supply chain
14 risks and their ramifications for Washington's leading employers and
15 economy; and

16 WHEREAS, A recent study prepared for JCDREAM observed that the
17 state's economy is comparatively more dependent on supply chains for
18 critical minerals disproportionately controlled by countries that
19 could cut off United States supplies; and

20 WHEREAS, A disruption to Washington's economy would result in
21 economic disruption for the wider region; and

22 WHEREAS, In addition to the economic concerns, there are
23 environmental and human rights concerns shared across our region

1 concerning the mining and refining operations in some countries where
2 supplies are currently sourced; and

3 WHEREAS, Washington state is a proud partner in a regional
4 economic development collaboration known as the Pacific NorthWest
5 Economic Region (PNWER), a statutory public/private nonprofit created
6 by the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Washington, and the
7 Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, and
8 the Yukon and Northwest Territories; and

9 WHEREAS, PNWER has a working group on mining that is committed to
10 promoting a better understanding of the region's mineral resource
11 potential and showcasing the best practices for environmental
12 sustainability;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, By the House of Representatives
14 of the state of Washington, the Senate concurring, That its long-term
15 economic competitiveness and security rests upon secure and
16 sustainable supply chains; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Washington State House of
18 Representatives intends to deepen its commitment to being a center of
19 excellence for research in sustainable substitutes to critical
20 materials and increase resilience to potential economic disruption by
21 fostering collaboration in and through PNWER on regional supply chain
22 security solutions; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That PNWER is encouraged to undertake a
24 long-term strategy to facilitate cooperation on the full spectrum of
25 resilient supply chain solutions, from research in alternatives to
26 mining and refining; and

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That all Washington state House of
28 Representatives legislators who attend PNWER official meetings with
29 financial support from Washington state taxpayers do their utmost to
30 support a long-term strategy of regional cooperation on secure and
31 sustainable supply chains of materials critical to our economic
32 future.

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