

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2661

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to a State all right, title, and interest in and to a percentage of the amount of royalties and other amounts required to be paid to the State under that Act with respect to public land and deposits in the State, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 25, 2017

Ms. CHENEY (for herself and Mr. PEARCE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to a State all right, title, and interest in and to a percentage of the amount of royalties and other amounts required to be paid to the State under that Act with respect to public land and deposits in the State, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “State Mineral Revenue
5 Protection Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE TO STATES OF PROPERTY INTEREST**
2 **IN STATE SHARE OF ROYALTIES AND OTHER**
3 **PAYMENTS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 35 of the Mineral Leasing
5 Act (30 U.S.C. 191) is amended—

6 (1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by
7 striking “shall be paid into the Treasury” and in-
8 serting “shall, except as provided in subsection (b),
9 be paid into the Treasury”;

10 (2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the
11 following:

12 “(b) CONVEYANCE TO STATES OF PROPERTY INTER-
13 EST IN STATE SHARE.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
15 provision of law, on request of a State and in lieu
16 of any payments to the State under subsection (a),
17 the Secretary of the Interior shall convey to the
18 State all right, title, and interest in and to the per-
19 centage specified in that subsection for that State of
20 all amounts otherwise required to be paid into the
21 Treasury under that subsection from sales, bonuses,
22 royalties (including interest charges), and rentals for
23 all public land or deposits located in the State.

24 “(2) AMOUNT.—Notwithstanding any other
25 provision of law, after a conveyance to a State under
26 paragraph (1), any person shall pay directly to the

1 State any amount owed by the person for which the
2 right, title, and interest has been conveyed to the
3 State under this subsection.

4 “(3) NOTICE.—The Secretary of the Interior
5 shall promptly provide to each holder of a lease of
6 public land to which subsection (a) applies that are
7 located in a State to which right, title, and interest
8 is conveyed under this subsection notice that—

9 “(A) the Secretary of the Interior has con-
10 veyed to the State all right, title, and interest
11 in and to the amounts referred to in paragraph
12 (1); and

13 “(B) the leaseholder is required to pay the
14 amounts directly to the State.”; and

15 (3) in subsection (c)(1), by inserting “and ex-
16 cept as provided in subsection (b)” before “, any
17 rentals”.

18 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

19 (1) Section 6(a) of the Mineral Leasing Act for
20 Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 355(a)) is amended—

21 (A) in the first sentence, by striking “Sub-
22 ject to the provisions of section 35(b) of the
23 Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191(b)), all”
24 and inserting “All”; and

1 (B) in the second sentence, by striking “of
2 the Act of February 25, 1920 (41 Stat. 450; 30
3 U.S.C. 191)” and inserting “of the Mineral
4 Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191)”.

5 (2) Section 20(a) of the Geothermal Steam Act
6 of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1019(a)) is amended in the mat-
7 ter preceding paragraph (1), in the second sentence,
8 by striking “the provisions of subsection (b) of sec-
9 tion 35 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
10 191(b)) and”.

11 (3) Section 205(f) of the Federal Oil and Gas
12 Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C.
13 1735(f)) is amended by striking the fourth, fifth,
14 and sixth sentences.

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