

H.R. 3905 is a radical anti-public lands, anti-science and anti-conservation bill before the House of Representatives. This bill would stop an ongoing study and eliminate a proven review process that has been in place for nearly 50 years, overturn the will of both Minnesotans and Americans, and allow a foreign mining company to build dangerous sulfide-ore copper mines on the edge of the Boundary Waters Wilderness Canoe Area Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park. We implore you to vote no on H.R. 3905. If passed, H.R. 3905 would:

- Endanger the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and Voyageurs National Park: Minnesota's most iconic public lands.
- Restrict bedrock conservation laws as they apply to Minnesota, including the Antiquities Act, NEPA, FLPMA, and two laws relating to federal mining authority.
- Endanger over 9,500 American jobs that depend on a clean Boundary Waters and Voyageurs.
- Disregard the will of 79% of Minnesotans who support an ongoing two-year study of risks of copper mining in the headwaters of the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs.
- Disregard the input of over 126,000 Americans who have already participated in the study.

# **Endangers Public Lands**

The Boundary Waters is America's most visited Wilderness Area and home to some of the best hunting, fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities in the world. H.R. 3905 would grant a foreign mining conglomerate the right to build sulfide-ore copper mines along rivers and lakes that flow directly into the Boundary Waters and Voyageurs. Sulfide-ore copper mining has never been done without polluting water and is the most toxic industry in America according to the EPA.

## **Declares Minnesota Unworthy of the Antiquities Act**

H.R. 3905 would undermine years of bedrock conservation law by requiring congressional approval for any mineral withdrawal or National Monument designation in Minnesota's Superior and Chippewa National Forests. The bill would change the Antiquities Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, and two laws that require Forest Service consent to mining on Minnesota's national forests. The bill singles out Minnesota as uniquely unworthy of these federal conservation protections.

# **Endangers Existing American Jobs**

H.R. 3905 would put the jobs and livelihoods of hard-working Americans at risk. Economic analysis from Key-Log Economics LLC. shows that pollution from acid mine drainage would cost Minnesota over 9,500 direct jobs, up to \$1.6 billion in lost annual income, and a property value loss of over \$500 million.

# Eliminates an Ongoing Science-Based Two-Year Study

Currently the U.S. Forest Service is conducting a two-year study that will determine the economic, environmental, and social impacts of sulfide-ore copper mining in the headwaters of the Boundary Waters. H.R. 3905 would end this study and grant mining leases without adequate consideration of the potential for grave harm to Minnesota's national treasures and communities.

## **Disregards Public Input and the Will of Minnesotans**

By eliminating the two-year study, H.R. 3905 disregards over 126,000 Americans who have participated in the study. Polls show that 79% of Minnesotans support the study and that Minnesotans oppose this type of mining near the Boundary Waters by a margin of more than two to one.

