

AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—116th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 526

To withdraw certain Bureau of Land Management land from mineral development.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended to be proposed by _____

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-

2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Buffalo Tract Protec-

5 tion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing rights,

8 the Federal land described in subsection (b) is withdrawn

9 from all forms of—

10 (1) location, entry, and patent under the mining

11 laws; and

1 (2) disposition under the mineral leasing, min-
2 eral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

3 (b) DESCRIPTION.—The Federal land referred to in
4 subsections (a) and (c) is the approximately 4,288 acres
5 of land administered by the Director of the Bureau of
6 Land Management and generally depicted as “Tract A”,
7 “Tract B”, “Tract C”, and “Tract D” on the map entitled
8 “Placitas, New Mexico Area Map” and dated November
9 13, 2019.

10 (c) SURFACE ESTATE.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the reservation of
12 the mineral estate under paragraph (2), nothing in
13 this Act prohibits the Secretary of the Interior from
14 conveying the surface estate of the Federal land de-
15 scribed in subsection (b) in accordance with—

16 (A) the Federal Land Policy and Manage-
17 ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or

18 (B) the Act of June 14, 1926 (commonly
19 known as the “Recreation and Public Purposes
20 Act”)(43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.).

21 (2) MINERAL ESTATE.—Any conveyance of the
22 surface estate of the Federal land described in sub-
23 section (b) shall require a reservation of the mineral
24 estate to the United States.