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Calendar No. 659

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5039

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 21, 2026

Mr. LEE introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

SEPTEMBER 17, 2026

Reported by Mr. LEE, without amendment

A BILL

To amend the Mineral Leasing Act to extend the period of time during which the Secretary of the Interior is required to collect a fee for each new application for a permit to drill, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''License to Drill Act''.

SEC. 2. BLM OIL AND GAS PERMIT PROCESSING FEE.

Section 35(d) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''2026'' and inserting ''2037'';

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''Of the fees collected under this subsection for a fiscal year, the'' and inserting ''The''; and

(B) by striking ''transfer—'' and all that follows through ''the Fund'' and inserting ''transfer, for each of fiscal years 2027 through 2037, all of the fees collected under this subsection for each such fiscal year to the BLM Permit Processing Improvement Fund''; and

(3) in paragraph (4), by striking ''2026'' and inserting ''2037''.

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A BILL

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September 17, 2026

Reported without amendment