116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 526

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

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 14, 2019

Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. UDALL) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Nat-
ural Resources

A BILL

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

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 "Buffalo Tract Protec-

5 tion Act".

6 **SEC. 2. WITHDRAWAL.**

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

8 the Bureau of Land Management land described in sub-

9 section (b) is withdrawn from all forms of mineral develop-

1 ment under all laws pertaining to mineral leasing or min-

2 eral materials, including locatable minerals.

3 (b) BLM LAND DESCRIBED.—The Bureau of Land

4 Management land referred to in subsection (a) is the land

5 identified as "Tract A", "Tract B", "Tract C", and

6 "Tract D" on the map entitled "Placitas, New Mexico

7 Area Map" and dated March 11, 2016.

8 (c) DISPOSAL OF SURFACE ESTATE.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),

10 nothing in this section prohibits the disposal of the

11 surface estate of the Bureau of Land Management

12 land described in subsection (b) under—

13   (A) the Federal Land Policy and Manage-

14   ment Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.); or

15   (B) the Act of June 14, 1926 (commonly

16   known as the "Recreation and Public Purposes

17   Act") (43 U.S.C. 869 et seq.).

18 (2) OWNERSHIP OF MINERAL ESTATE.—Any

19 disposal of the surface estate of the Bureau of Land

20 Management land described in subsection (b) shall

21 be subject to the condition that the mineral estate

22 of that land shall remain under the ownership of the

23 Bureau of Land Management, subject to the with-

24 drawal described in subsection (a).

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