

Jay Timmons

Executive Vice President

September 28, 2010

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the nation's largest industrial trade association representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support H.R. 6160, the Rare Earths and Critical Materials Revitalization Act.

U.S. manufacturers require access to basic inputs to the production process in order to become and remain competitive in the global economy. Failure to secure access to rare earth minerals at a reasonable cost could place more U.S. manufacturing jobs in jeopardy.

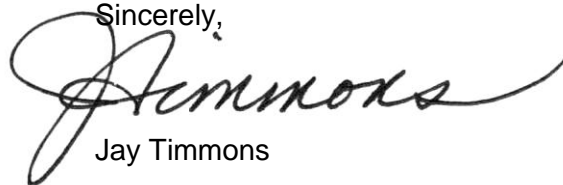
Rare earth minerals are commonly used in many manufacturing applications, including renewable energy products, chemicals, catalysts for petroleum refining, defense applications, consumer electronics, magnets, refrigeration systems and hybrid automobile batteries. The only existing supplier of rare earth materials has announced that it will cut its exports by as much as 40 percent by 2012, jeopardizing U.S. manufacturers' access to these critical minerals and driving up costs for these companies.

H.R. 6160 would authorize the Department of Energy to issue loan guarantees to companies wishing to enter into rare earth mineral markets, providing the financial support they need to develop technologies that ensure an adequate supply of minerals. Moreover, the bill would support research, development, demonstration and commercial application across the rare earth supply chain.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on H.R. 6160, including potential procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 111th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jay Timmons

Key Manufacturing Vote