

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

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.

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 “License to Drill Act”.

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

6 Section 35(d) of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C.
7 191(d)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “2026” and
2 inserting “2037”;

3 (2) in paragraph (3)—

4 (A) by striking “Of the fees collected
5 under this subsection for a fiscal year, the” and
6 inserting “The”; and

7 (B) by striking “transfer—” and all that
8 follows through “the Fund” and inserting
9 “transfer, for each of fiscal years 2027 through
10 2037, all of the fees collected under this sub-
11 section for each such fiscal year to the BLM
12 Permit Processing Improvement Fund”; and

13 (3) in paragraph (4), by striking “2026” and
14 inserting “2037”.

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