

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

R. BRUCE JOSTEN  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT  
GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

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TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, supports H.R. 1904, the "Southeast Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2011," which would strike the proper balance between environmental stewardship and economic growth by providing the federal government with 5,344 acres of high-value conservation lands in exchange for 2,422 acres of land containing the third-largest undeveloped copper resource in the world.

Copper is one of the fundamental building blocks of the economy, and is used in large quantities in a wide range of industries and applications, including telecommunications, construction, electricity, automobile manufacturing, renewable energy, plumbing and household goods. According to industry estimates, a new automobile uses 55 pounds of copper, an average single-family home uses 439 pounds of copper, and a new wind turbine requires more than five tons of copper.

The parcel of land conveyed by H.R. 1904 is the largest copper deposit in North America, one that could produce more than 20 percent of the annual U.S. demand for copper. The project's investment of over \$6 billion in private-sector dollars will create 3,700 direct and indirect jobs, \$220 million in annual wages. This investment would ultimately provide a \$61 billion economic jolt to the state of Arizona and \$19 billion in federal, state and local tax revenues.

All that is standing in the way of these economic benefits is a land exchange, one that would more than double the size of the area being conserved. The Chamber supports this bill and urges you to vote in favor of H.R. 1904 calls on all Members to support H.R. 1904 and unlock the potential for new jobs in Arizona.

Sincerely,



R. Bruce Josten