

Mining royalty fee outrageous

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Regarding the "My Turn" column on Tuesday, "Old mining law is out of sync with the times."

As a retired miner, I do agree that certain parts of the old Mining Law of 1872 need updating, including abandoned mine cleanups. But I also believe that H.R. 2262 misses on a couple of issues, most notably the proposed 8 percent royalty fee for mining on federal lands.

This outrageous fee would devastate many Arizona mining companies, companies that have been here for generations, and would lead to massive job and state-revenue loss. The Mining Law of 1872 needs to be updated, but it needs to be done in a matter that will strike a fair balance between the environment that we treasure and the mining industry that is so important to our state. - **Frank Stallworth**, *Sun City*