

Wallop backs 'sensible' 1872 Mining Law reform Idaho senator calls bill 'masquerade'

By MICHAEL SMITH
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CASPER — Sen. Mike Wallop says it is a "masquerade" to call a bill that would reform the 1872 mining law "sensible."

Wallop says the bill, which would allow the federal government to sell mining rights to private companies, is a "disguised attempt to privatize the public domain."

Wallop says the bill would allow private companies to buy mining rights from the federal government for a period of 10 years, after which they would have to be sold to the highest bidder.

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Reform of 1872 Law

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Sun, May 3, 2020