

# PUBLIC LANDS ENEMY #11



## Rep. Mark Amodei (R-Nev.)

Sponsored Bills: 4; Cosponsored Bills: 18;

Total Possible Bills: 84

U.S. House of Representatives (2011-Present), Nevada's 2<sup>nd</sup> District Member, House Appropriation Committee

Member, Subcommittee on the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

Member, Federal Lands Action Group

Congressman Mark Amodei introduced or cosponsored 22 of 84 anti-public lands bills, earning him the rank of Public Lands Enemy #11. As a member of the [Federal Land Action Group](#), Amodei is one of the leading congressional agitators for turning public lands over to the states and corporate interests. Amodei has said that he is using his position on the House Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee to advance “legislation to strengthen local control over the federal lands.”<sup>33</sup> To that end the representative has introduced a steady stream of bills.

In 2015 Amodei introduced [H.R. 1484](#), which would direct the federal government to offer up most publicly owned lands in Nevada to the state, allowing the state to choose which of our national forests and high deserts they want to own. Amodei's [H.R. 1633](#) would require the federal lands agencies to create a process whereby any landowner adjacent to Forest Service or BLM land could request to buy the public land next door. The bill does not contain a limit as to how much land could be sold over time and proceeds from these sales of federal land would go the states rather than the federal government. Another of the congressman's bills, [H.R. 1214](#), would change the authority of the secretary of agriculture to sell off certain National Forest parcels and Amodei's [H.R. 488](#) would effectively take away the President's authority to establish new national monuments in Nevada.

In a 2013 letter to a constituent, Amodei expressed his opinion on climate change — an issue with dire impacts on public lands — writing, “I recognize that some scientists believe that global warming is caused by failed environmental practices; however, others argue that these temperature increases would incur [*sic*] regardless due to the warming of the center of the earth. I do not believe it is appropriate for the federal government to advocate one position over the other. Since, we do not know much about long-term climate change, I do agree we must have an unbiased research effort funded by both the government and the private sector to answer the essential questions about climate change.”<sup>34</sup>

In 2007 and 2008, Amodei served as the [president of the Nevada Mining Association](#), and during his congressional career, the mining industry has contributed [\\$92,200](#) to his campaigns.

<sup>33</sup> <https://amodei.house.gov/public-lands/>

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2013/8/16/1231627/-Nevada-Rep-Mark-Amodei-R-Challenges-Climate-Change-in-a-Letter-to-a-Constituent>

## Anti-Public Lands Bills Sponsored or Cosponsored by Amodei:

Bill Type	Sponsored	Cosponsored
<b>Land Seizure</b> Nevada Land Seizure ( <a href="#">H.R. 1484</a> ) Sale to Adjacent Landowners ( <a href="#">H.R. 1633</a> ) Bigger “Small Tracts” Sales ( <a href="#">H.R. 1214</a> ) Public Lands Sale for “Recreation” ( <a href="#">H.R. 5836</a> ) Weakens Grazing Management ( <a href="#">H.R. 657</a> ) Oak Flat Land Trade ( <a href="#">H.R. 1904</a> )	X X X	X X X
<b>Private/County/State Control of Public Lands</b> Community Forest Demo Areas ( <a href="#">H.R. 1294</a> ) End BLM/USFS Law Enforcement ( <a href="#">H.R. 4751</a> ) Community Forest Demo Areas ( <a href="#">H.R. 2316</a> ) Weakens RS 2477 Rules ( <a href="#">H.R. 4313</a> ) Local Control of Public Land Access ( <a href="#">H.R. 1555</a> ) Local Control of Public Land Access ( <a href="#">H.R. 4272</a> ) State Beetle Kill Logging Projects ( <a href="#">H.R. 695</a> ) State Beetle Kill Timber Projects ( <a href="#">H.R. 818</a> ) State Beetle Kill Timber Projects ( <a href="#">H.R. 6089</a> )		X X X X X X X X
<b>Weakening Federal Protections</b> Remove Wilderness Management ( <a href="#">H.R. 1581</a> ) Weakens Grazing Management ( <a href="#">H.R. 4234</a> ) Sage Grouse is Not Endangered ( <a href="#">H.R. 4739</a> )		X X X
<b>No More Parks, Monuments, Refuges</b> No New Monuments in Nevada ( <a href="#">H.R. 488</a> ) Barriers to New Monuments ( <a href="#">H.R. 1459</a> ) Limiting New Monuments ( <a href="#">H.R. 3946</a> ) Limiting New Wildlife Refuges ( <a href="#">H.R. 638</a> )	X	X X X

## Campaign Contributors ([2016 Election](#), as of December 2016, source: Center for Responsive Politics):

- Mining Industry:
  - \$29,700
- Livestock Industry:
  - \$19,200
- Oil & Gas Industry:
  - \$8,000
- Energy & Natural Resources Sector:
  - \$50,700
- Agribusiness Sector<sup>35</sup>:
  - \$34,100
- Major Funders (in Amodei’s Top 100 Contributors, 2016 Election):

<sup>35</sup> The agribusiness sector includes: Crop Production & Basic Processing, Vegetables & Fruits, Sugar Cane & Sugar Beets, Tobacco, Dairy,

- **Mining:** Barrick Gold Corporation (\$12,000), National Stone, Sand & Gravel Assoc. (\$7,500), National Mining Association (\$5,000), Comstock Mining (\$4,000), Newmont Mining (\$3,500), Coeur Mining (\$2,700), Freeport-McMoRan (\$2,500),
- **Grazing:** National Cattlemen’s Beef Association (\$10,000)
- **Energy:** NV Energy (\$7,500)
- **Conglomerates:** Berkshire Hathaway (\$2,500), Honeywell International (\$2,500)

**League of Conservation Voters National Environmental Scorecard:**

[Lifetime](#): 3 percent