

S 1756

Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Stability and Fairness Act

**Congress:** 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Health

**Introduced:** Oct 17, 2003

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S12846-12849)

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S12846-12849) (Oct 17, 2003)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/1756>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Conrad, Kent [D-ND]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** ND • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (10 total)

| Cosponsor                         | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|------|--------------|
| Sen. Breaux, John B. [D-LA]       | D · LA        |      | Oct 17, 2003 |
| Sen. Cochran, Thad [R-MS]         | R · MS        |      | Oct 17, 2003 |
| Sen. Craig, Larry E. [R-ID]       | R · ID        |      | Oct 17, 2003 |
| Sen. Landrieu, Mary L. [D-LA]     | D · LA        |      | Oct 17, 2003 |
| Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]      | R · OR        |      | Oct 17, 2003 |
| Sen. Dorgan, Byron L. [D-ND]      | D · ND        |      | Oct 20, 2003 |
| Sen. Lott, Trent [R-MS]           | R · MS        |      | Oct 20, 2003 |
| Sen. Allen, George [R-VA]         | R · VA        |      | Oct 22, 2003 |
| Sen. Hutchison, Kay Bailey [R-TX] | R · TX        |      | Oct 22, 2003 |
| Sen. Warner, John [R-VA]          | R · VA        |      | Mar 22, 2004 |

Committee Activity

| Committee         | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Finance Committee | Senate  | Referred To | Oct 17, 2003 |

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Health

Related Bills

| Bill        | Relationship | Last Action  |
|-------------|--------------|--|
| 108 HR 3586 | Related bill | Nov 21, 2003: Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means. |

Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Stability and Fairness Act - Amends the Internal Revenue Code to authorize appropriations from the U.S. Treasury to the Combined Fund to: (1) pay any benefit or administrative costs of unassigned beneficiaries of the Combined Fund remaining after the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund transfers; and (2) eliminate any annual deficit in any premium account of the Combined Fund as certified by the Trustees of the Combined Fund. Requires an annual audit of the Combined Fund by the Comptroller General. Provides for the appointment of two trustees by the Secretary of the Treasury to the board of the Fund.

Makes other related revisions, including: (1) modifying premiums; (2) providing for refunds to certain operators; and (3) reductions in annual health benefit premiums to the Fund in the event of a surplus.

Redefines a coal wage agreement as: (1) the 1988 agreement, meaning the collective bargaining agreement between the settlers which became effective on February 1, 1988; and (2) the coal wage agreement, meaning the 1988 agreement and any predecessor to the 1988 agreement.

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### **Actions Timeline**

- **Oct 17, 2003:** Introduced in Senate
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