

HR 179

Miners Protection Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Jan 3, 2017

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources. (Feb 10, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/house-bill/179>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. McKinley, David B. [R-WV-1]

Party: Republican • **State:** WV • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (78 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bost, Mike [R-IL-12]	R · IL		Jan 3, 2017
Rep. Doyle, Michael F. [D-PA-14]	D · PA		Jan 3, 2017
Rep. Fudge, Marcia L. [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Jan 3, 2017
Rep. Jenkins, Evan H. [R-WV-3]	R · WV		Jan 3, 2017
Rep. Kaptur, Marcy [D-OH-9]	D · OH		Jan 3, 2017
Rep. Mooney, Alexander X. [R-WV-2]	R · WV		Jan 3, 2017
Rep. Johnson, Bill [R-OH-6]	R · OH		Jan 9, 2017
Rep. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ-9]	D · AZ		Jan 9, 2017
Rep. Scott, Robert C. "Bobby" [D-VA-3]	D · VA		Jan 30, 2017
Rep. Joyce, David P. [R-OH-14]	R · OH		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Wilson, Frederica S. [D-FL-24]	D · FL		Feb 3, 2017
Rep. Byrne, Bradley [R-AL-1]	R · AL		Feb 13, 2017
Rep. Cook, Paul [R-CA-8]	R · CA		Feb 13, 2017
Rep. LoBiondo, Frank A. [R-NJ-2]	R · NJ		Feb 13, 2017
Rep. Thompson, Glenn [R-PA-5]	R · PA		Feb 15, 2017
Rep. Love, Mia B. [R-UT-4]	R · UT		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Roby, Martha [R-AL-2]	R · AL		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Rogers, Mike D. [R-AL-3]	R · AL		Feb 16, 2017
Rep. Rokita, Todd [R-IN-4]	R · IN		Feb 17, 2017
Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Feb 17, 2017
Rep. Gibbs, Bob [R-OH-7]	R · OH		Feb 28, 2017
Rep. Guthrie, Brett [R-KY-2]	R · KY		Feb 28, 2017
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Feb 28, 2017
Rep. Polis, Jared [D-CO-2]	D · CO		Mar 1, 2017
Rep. Wittman, Robert J. [R-VA-1]	R · VA		Mar 1, 2017
Rep. Barr, Andy [R-KY-6]	R · KY		Mar 8, 2017
Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]	D · MO		Mar 8, 2017
Rep. Bucshon, Larry [R-IN-8]	R · IN		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Cartwright, Matt [D-PA-17]	D · PA		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Johnson, Henry C. "Hank," Jr. [D-GA-4]	D · GA		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Pocan, Mark [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Sewell, Terri A. [D-AL-7]	D · AL		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Shuster, Bill [R-PA-9]	R · PA		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]	D · MS		Mar 16, 2017
Rep. Boyle, Brendan F. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Mar 21, 2017
Rep. Clay, Wm. Lacy [D-MO-1]	D · MO		Mar 21, 2017
Rep. Davis, Rodney [R-IL-13]	R · IL		Mar 21, 2017
Rep. Fitzpatrick, Brian K. [R-PA-8]	R · PA		Mar 21, 2017
Rep. O'Halleran, Tom [D-AZ-1]	D · AZ		Mar 21, 2017
Rep. Ryan, Tim [D-OH-13]	D · OH		Mar 21, 2017
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Mar 22, 2017

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brady, Robert A. [D-PA-1]	D · PA		Mar 22, 2017
Rep. Stivers, Steve [R-OH-15]	R · OH		Mar 22, 2017
Rep. Renacci, James B. [R-OH-16]	R · OH		Mar 27, 2017
Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]	D · CA		Mar 29, 2017
Rep. Lujan, Ben Ray [D-NM-3]	D · NM		Mar 29, 2017
Rep. Norcross, Donald [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Mar 30, 2017
Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]	D · CA		Apr 4, 2017
Rep. Lance, Leonard [R-NJ-7]	R · NJ		Apr 5, 2017
Rep. Lujan Grisham, Michelle [D-NM-1]	D · NM		Apr 5, 2017
Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]	D · LA		Apr 6, 2017
Rep. Smith, Christopher H. [R-NJ-4]	R · NJ		Apr 6, 2017
Rep. Brooks, Mo [R-AL-5]	R · AL		Apr 20, 2017
Rep. Tenney, Claudia [R-NY-22]	R · NY		Apr 20, 2017
Rep. Turner, Michael R. [R-OH-10]	R · OH		Apr 20, 2017
Rep. Yarmuth, John A. [D-KY-3]	D · KY		Apr 20, 2017
Rep. Aderholt, Robert B. [R-AL-4]	R · AL		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. DeLauro, Rosa L. [D-CT-3]	D · CT		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. Lynch, Stephen F. [D-MA-8]	D · MA		Apr 26, 2017
Rep. Beyer, Donald S., Jr. [D-VA-8]	D · VA		May 2, 2017
Rep. Katko, John [R-NY-24]	R · NY		May 2, 2017
Rep. Evans, Dwight [D-PA-2]	D · PA		May 4, 2017
Rep. Green, Al [D-TX-9]	D · TX		May 4, 2017
Rep. Kinzinger, Adam [R-IL-16]	R · IL		May 4, 2017
Rep. Beatty, Joyce [D-OH-3]	D · OH		May 11, 2017
Rep. Blunt Rochester, Lisa [D-DE-At Large]	D · DE		May 11, 2017
Rep. Butterfield, G. K. [D-NC-1]	D · NC		May 11, 2017
Rep. Johnson, Eddie Bernice [D-TX-30]	D · TX		May 11, 2017
Rep. Lee, Barbara [D-CA-13]	D · CA		May 11, 2017
Rep. Esty, Elizabeth H. [D-CT-5]	D · CT		May 17, 2017
Rep. Kelly, Robin L. [D-IL-2]	D · IL		May 22, 2017
Rep. Moore, Gwen [D-WI-4]	D · WI		May 22, 2017
Rep. Bass, Karen [D-CA-37]	D · CA		May 23, 2017
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-2]	D · MA		Jul 12, 2017
Rep. McEachin, A. Donald [D-VA-4]	D · VA		Aug 22, 2017
Rep. Meng, Grace [D-NY-6]	D · NY		Nov 8, 2017
Rep. Connolly, Gerald E. [D-VA-11]	D · VA		Feb 7, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Natural Resources Committee	House	Referred to	Feb 10, 2017
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 3, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 4426	Related bill	May 22, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy.
115 HR 3913	Related bill	Oct 6, 2017: Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
115 S 1911	Related bill	Oct 3, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
115 S 1105	Related bill	May 11, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.
115 S 175	Related bill	Jan 17, 2017: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S343)

Summary (as of Jan 3, 2017)

Miners Protection Act of 2017

This bill amends the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (SMCRA) to transfer certain funds to the Multiemployer Health Benefit Plan and the 1974 United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) Pension Plan to provide health and pension benefits to retired coal miners and their families.

The bill expands the group whose retiree health benefits are taken into account in determining the amount that the Department of the Treasury must transfer from the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund and the General Fund of the Treasury to the Multiemployer Health Benefit Plan.

A voluntary employees' beneficiary association (VEBA) established as a result of certain bankruptcy proceedings must transfer to the plan any amounts received as a result of the bankruptcy proceeding, reduced by the amount of the VEBA's administrative costs. Transfers by Treasury are reduced by the amount of the VEBA transfers.

Treasury must also transfer additional funds to the 1974 UMWA Pension Plan to pay pension benefits required under that plan if the amounts available for transfer under SMCRA's \$490 million annual limit exceed the amounts required to be transferred for other purposes (including to the UMWA Health Plans).

The bill also: (1) prohibits the pension plan from making certain changes to benefits during any year in which a transfer is received, and (2) establishes additional reporting requirements for the plan.

The bill repeals requirements for current and former signatories to labor agreements with the UMWA to pay unassigned beneficiaries premiums or backstop premiums if transfers under SMCRA are less than the amount required to be transferred.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 10, 2017:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
- **Jan 3, 2017:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 3, 2017:** Referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.