

## HR 170

To amend the Black Lung Benefits Act to provide equity for certain eligible survivors, and for other purposes.

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Labor and Employment

**Introduced:** Jan 3, 2019

**Current Status:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

**Latest Action:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor. (Jan 3, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/170>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Griffith, H. Morgan [R-VA-9]

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

### Cosponsors

*No cosponsors are listed for this bill.*

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Jan 3, 2019

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

### Related Bills

*No related bills are listed.*

### Summary (as of Jan 3, 2019)

This bill amends the Black Lung Benefits Act to preserve specified amendments made by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) in the event those amendments are repealed. The amendments expanded the application of certain eligibility requirements for black lung benefits to claims that were pending on or after the enactment of PPACA. Those requirements (1) established a rebuttable presumption for claims filed by a miner who worked at least 15 years in an underground coal mine that a disabling lung or respiratory condition was due to black lung disease; and (2) entitled the survivors of a miner who, before death, was determined to be eligible for benefits to those benefits without the survivors being required to revalidate the miner's claim. (Previously, survivors were required to prove that the miner's death was caused by black lung disease.)

## Actions Timeline

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- **Jan 3, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Jan 3, 2019:** Referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor.

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