

## S 2788

Bipartisan American Miners Act of 2019

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Labor and Employment

**Introduced:** Nov 6, 2019

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (Nov 6, 2019)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/senate-bill/2788>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Manchin, Joe, III [D-WV]

**Party:** Independent • **State:** WV • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (14 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Brown, Sherrod [D-OH]	D · OH		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Capito, Shelley Moore [R-WV]	R · WV		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Durbin, Richard J. [D-IL]	D · IL		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Jones, Doug [D-AL]	D · AL		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Kaine, Tim [D-VA]	D · VA		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. McConnell, Mitch [R-KY]	R · KY		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Portman, Rob [R-OH]	R · OH		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Sinema, Kyrsten [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD]	D · MD		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Warner, Mark R. [D-VA]	D · VA		Nov 6, 2019
Sen. Reed, Jack [D-RI]	D · RI		Nov 20, 2019
Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]	D · DE		Dec 11, 2019

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Finance Committee	Senate	Referred To	Nov 6, 2019

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Labor and Employment

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
116 HR 1865	Related bill	<b>Dec 20, 2019:</b> Became Public Law No: 116-94.
116 HR 934	Related bill	<b>Oct 23, 2019:</b> Ordered to be Reported by Voice Vote.
116 HR 935	Related bill	<b>Oct 23, 2019:</b> Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
116 S 671	Related bill	<b>Mar 6, 2019:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.
116 S 27	Related bill	<b>Jan 3, 2019:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

## Summary (as of Nov 6, 2019)

### Bipartisan American Miners Act of 2019

This bill transfers certain funds to provide pension and health benefits for retired coal miners who have been affected by issues such as coal company bankruptcies.

The Department of the Treasury must transfer additional funds to the 1974 United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) Pension Plan to pay pension benefits required under that plan if the annual limit on transfers under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 exceeds the amount required to be transferred for existing obligations of the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund. The bill also increases the annual limit on transfers from \$490 million to \$750 million.

The bill also adds miners affected by 2018 and 2019 coal company bankruptcies to the group whose retiree health benefits are taken into account in determining the amount that Treasury must transfer under current law to the Multiemployer Health Benefit Plan.

Additionally, the bill allows in-service distributions under a pension plan or governmental section 457(b) plan at age 59-1/2. The distributions are currently permitted at age 62 for pension plans and at age 70-1/2 for governmental section 457(b) plans.

### Actions Timeline

- **Nov 6, 2019:** Introduced in Senate
- **Nov 6, 2019:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.