

## S 1600

Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Fee Reauthorization Act of 2021

**Congress:** 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Environmental Protection

**Introduced:** May 12, 2021

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. (May 12, 2021)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/1600>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Barrasso, John [R-WY]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** WY • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Lummis, Cynthia M. [R-WY]	R · WY		May 12, 2021
Sen. Cramer, Kevin [R-ND]	R · ND		Jun 22, 2021

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Energy and Natural Resources Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 12, 2021

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Environmental Protection

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
117 HR 2462	Related bill	<b>Jun 5, 2021:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources.
117 S 1447	Related bill	<b>Apr 29, 2021:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

## **Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Fee Reauthorization Act of 2021**

This bill reduces the fee certain coal mining operations must pay to the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund, reauthorizes such fee through FY2028, and otherwise revises provisions regarding the fund and mine reclamation.

Under the existing Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Program, the Office of Surface Mining, Reclamation and Enforcement (OSMRE) collects a fee from coal mining companies for each ton of coal produced. The fees are deposited into the fund, which may be used to address hazards to public health, safety, and the environment from coal mining sites that were abandoned or unreclaimed as of August 3, 1977. For example, the fund may be used to provide grants to states and Indian tribes to reclaim and clean up land and water affected by such sites.

OSMRE's authority to collect the fee expires on September 30, 2021. This bill extends the authority to collect the fee for seven years and reduces the fee for all categories of coal. It also provides additional grants for certain priority sites and revises requirements governing the distribution of grants to states and Indian tribes from the program.

In addition, the bill allows states to (1) enter into a memorandum of understanding with relevant states or federal agencies to remediate mine drainage on abandoned mine land and water impacted by abandoned mines, and (2) partner with a community reclaimer who volunteers to carry out a reclamation project approved by the Department of the Interior.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **May 12, 2021:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 12, 2021:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.