

HR 6791

John White Ensuring Timely Black Lung Benefits Act

Congress: 117 (2021–2023, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Labor and Employment

Introduced: Feb 18, 2022

Current Status: Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means

Latest Action: Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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. (Feb 18, 2022)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/6791>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Rogers, Harold [R-KY-5]

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

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Bishop, Sanford D., Jr. [D-GA-2]	D · GA		Feb 18, 2022
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		Mar 28, 2022

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Education and Workforce Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 18, 2022
Ways and Means Committee	House	Referred To	Feb 18, 2022

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Labor and Employment

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

John White Ensuring Timely Black Lung Benefits Act

This bill requires payment of black lung benefits to eligible individuals within 60 days of their eligibility determination.

Black lung disease (or pneumoconiosis) is a lung disease caused by the inhalation of coal dust. Coal miners and certain other workers (and their survivors) are eligible for benefits for disability or death caused by black lung disease arising out of coal mine employment. Generally, operators of underground coal mines are responsible for the payment of black lung benefits for their workers.

Under this bill, if operator liability has not been determined within 60 days of a worker's eligibility determination, the Department of Labor must pay the worker's benefits from the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund. (Typically, that fund pays benefits in cases where the responsible operator either no longer exists and has no successor operator or is unable to pay benefits.)

Operators that are subsequently found liable for the benefits must reimburse the fund.

Actions Timeline

- **Feb 18, 2022:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 18, 2022:** Referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, 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.