

§ 962. Acceptance of contributions and prosecution of projects; cooperative programs to promote health and safety education and training; recognition and funding of Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association; use of funds for costs of mine rescue and survival operations

The Secretary of Labor is authorized to accept lands, buildings, equipment, and other contributions from public and private sources and to prosecute projects in cooperation with other agencies, Federal, State, or private; the Mine Safety and Health Administration is authorized to promote health and safety education and training in the mining community through cooperative programs with States, industry, and safety associations; the Secretary is authorized to recognize the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association as a principal safety association and, notwithstanding any other provision of law, may provide funds and, with or without reimbursement, personnel, including service of Mine Safety and Health Administration officials as officers in local chapters or in the national organization; and any funds available to the Department of Labor may be used, with the approval of the Secretary, to provide for the costs of mine rescue and survival operations in the event of a major disaster.

(Pub. L. 111-117, div. D, title I, Dec. 16, 2009, 123 Stat. 3235.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the appropriation act cited as the credit to this section, and not as part of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 which comprises this chapter.

SIMILAR PROVISIONS

Similar provisions were contained in the following prior appropriation acts:

- Pub. L. 111-8, div. F, title I, Mar. 11, 2009, 123 Stat. 759.
- Pub. L. 110-161, div. G, title I, Dec. 26, 2007, 121 Stat. 2164.
- Pub. L. 109-149, title I, Dec. 30, 2005, 119 Stat. 2841.
- Pub. L. 108-447, div. F, title I, Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3120.
- Pub. L. 108-199, div. E, title I, Jan. 23, 2004, 118 Stat. 233.
- Pub. L. 108-7, div. G, title I, Feb. 20, 2003, 117 Stat. 305.
- Pub. L. 107-116, title I, Jan. 10, 2002, 115 Stat. 2183.
- Pub. L. 106-554, §1(a)(1) [title I], Dec. 21, 2000, 114 Stat. 2763, 2763A-9.
- Pub. L. 106-113, div. B, §1000(a)(4) [title I], Nov. 29, 1999, 113 Stat. 1535, 1501A-223.
- Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(f) [title I], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-337, 2681-344.
- Pub. L. 105-78, title I, Nov. 13, 1997, 111 Stat. 1475.
- Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title I, §101(e) [title I], Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-233, 3009-240.
- Pub. L. 104-134, title I, §101(d) [title I], Apr. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 1321-211, 1321-218; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 104-140, §1(a), May 2, 1996, 110 Stat. 1327.
- Pub. L. 103-333, title I, Sept. 30, 1994, 108 Stat. 2545.
- Pub. L. 103-112, title I, Oct. 21, 1993, 107 Stat. 1088.
- Pub. L. 102-394, title I, Oct. 6, 1992, 106 Stat. 1797.
- Pub. L. 102-170, title I, Nov. 26, 1991, 105 Stat. 1112.
- Pub. L. 101-517, title I, Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 2195.
- Pub. L. 101-166, title I, Nov. 21, 1989, 103 Stat. 1164.
- Pub. L. 100-436, title I, Sept. 20, 1988, 102 Stat. 1686.
- Pub. L. 100-202, §101(h) [title I], Dec. 22, 1987, 101 Stat. 1329-256, 1329-262.
- Pub. L. 99-500, §101(i) [H.R. 5233, title I], Oct. 18, 1986, 100 Stat. 1783-287, and Pub. L. 99-591, §101(i) [H.R. 5233, title I], Oct. 30, 1986, 100 Stat. 3341-287.

- Pub. L. 99-178, title I, Dec. 12, 1985, 99 Stat. 1107.
- Pub. L. 98-619, title I, Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3310.
- Pub. L. 98-139, title I, Oct. 31, 1983, 97 Stat. 876.
- Pub. L. 97-377, title I, §101(e)(1) [title I], Dec. 21, 1982, 96 Stat. 1878, 1883.
- Pub. L. 97-92, §101(a) [H.R. 4560, title I], Dec. 15, 1981, 95 Stat. 1183.
- Pub. L. 96-536, §101(a) [incorporating H.R. 4389, title I, for FY 1980], Dec. 16, 1980, 94 Stat. 3166.
- Pub. L. 96-123, §101(g) [H.R. 4389, title I], Nov. 20, 1979, 93 Stat. 925.
- Pub. L. 95-480, title I, Oct. 18, 1978, 92 Stat. 1570.
- Pub. L. 95-355, title I, Sept. 8, 1978, 92 Stat. 529.

§ 963. Technical Study Panel

(a) Establishment

There is established a Technical Study Panel (referred to in this section as the "Panel") which shall provide independent scientific and engineering review and recommendations with respect to the utilization of belt air and the composition and fire retardant properties of belt materials in underground coal mining.

(b) Membership

The Panel shall be composed of—

(1) two individuals to be appointed by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the Associate Director of the Office of Mine Safety;

(2) two individuals to be appointed by the Secretary of Labor, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for Mine Safety and Health; and

(3) two individuals, one to be appointed jointly by the majority leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives and one to be appointed jointly by the minority leader of the Senate and House of Representatives, each to be appointed prior to the sine die adjournment of the second session of the 109th Congress.

(c) Qualifications

Four of the six individuals appointed to the Panel under subsection (b) shall possess a masters or doctoral level degree in mining engineering or another scientific field demonstrably related to the subject of the report. No individual appointed to the Panel shall be an employee of any coal or other mine, or of any labor organization, or of any State or Federal agency primarily responsible for regulating the mining industry.

(d) Report

(1) In general

Not later than 1 year after the date on which all members of the Panel are appointed under subsection (b), the Panel shall prepare and submit to the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report concerning the utilization of belt air and the composition and fire retardant properties of belt materials in underground coal mining.

(2) Response by Secretary

Not later than 180 days after the receipt of the report under paragraph (1), the Secretary