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LEGISLATURE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

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FILE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. **1158** Session of  
1919.

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INTRODUCED BY MR. WONER, MARCH 31, 1919.

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON MINES AND MINING,  
APRIL 1, 1919.

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**AN ACT**

Providing for the conservation of land and the restoration of the surface of land denuded or despoiled by mining operations known as the stripping process requiring operators to file a bond for such purpose imposing upon county commissioners the duty of restoring surfaces of such lands upon failure of the operators to do so and to pay for the same from the county treasury and to collect the cost from the operators

1 Section 1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Repre-*  
2 *sentatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in General Assembly*  
3 *met and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same That*  
4 *where the surface of land is removed or despoiled for*  
5 *the purpose of extracting coal clay limestone or other*  
6 *mineral by what is known as the stripping process it*  
7 *shall be the duty of the party or parties conducting the*  
8 *operation to cause the refuse material removed from the*  
9 *excavation to be filled back and leveled up as nearly as*

1 possible to its original condition and in no case shall  
2 the surface of the land be left so uneven as to be  
3 unfit for farming purposes or so as to interfere with  
4 irrigation or drainage of adjacent lands All boulders  
5 brought to the surface by such excavations shall be re-  
6 moved The restoration of the surface shall be conducted  
7 as rapidly as possible leaving only so much unrestored  
8 at one time as is necessary for the continuation of the  
9 operations

10 Section 2 Any person co-partnership association or cor-  
11 poration about to engage in such mining operation before  
12 entering thereon shall file with the county commissioners  
13 of the county wherein the same is located a bond in  
14 such sum as the said officers may determine and with  
15 such security as may be approved by them conditioned  
16 for the faithful performance of the duties imposed by  
17 section one of this act

18 Section 3 Upon failure of the operator or operators  
19 to comply with the provisions of section one the county  
20 commissioners shall give thirty days' notice to the opera-  
21 tor or operators to restore said lands and upon failure  
22 so to do may proceed to advertise and let to a con-  
23 tract in the same manner as for other public work for  
24 the performance of the work necessary to restore such  
25 land within the contemplation of said section one and  
26 pay the costs thereof out of the general funds of the  
27 county Thereupon it shall be the duty of the operator  
28 or operators to pay to the county the amount expended  
29 by the county in the restoration of such lands and upon

1 failure so to do the commissioners shall proceed upon the  
2 bond of such operator to recover the same by an ap-  
3 propriate action in the name of the county