

## No. 452

## AN ACT

Relating to the use of conveyor belts in coal mines; providing for the safety of persons employed therein, and the protection of property connected therewith; conferring powers and imposing duties upon the Department of Mines; and prescribing penalties.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Coal mine operations.

Section 1. This act shall apply to all coal mines operating in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in which five (5) or more persons are employed at any one time.

Applicability.

Section 2. It shall be unlawful to operate any conveyor belt in such coal mines, unless such conveyor belt is efficiently insulated by flame resistant material according to standards approved by the Secretary of Mines.

Operation of conveyor belts unlawful unless flame resistant.

Section 3. The Department of Mines is hereby charged with the enforcement of the provisions of this act, and is hereby authorized and empowered to prescribe, adopt, promulgate and enforce rules and regulations relating to any matter or thing pertaining to the administration and enforcement of the provisions of this act.

Duty of Department of Mines.

Section 4. Any operator or other person violating the provisions of this act shall, upon conviction in a summary proceeding, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) and costs nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) and costs and, in default of the payment of such fine and costs, shall be imprisoned one (1) day for each dollar of fine and costs unpaid. Each day of violation of the provisions of this act shall constitute a separate offense.

Penalty.

Section 5. This act shall become effective the first day of January, one thousand nine hundred fifty-seven: Provided, That an operator of any mine covered by this act, who may, at the time of the effective date of this act, have in use or on hand a conveyor belt which is not fire resistant and which has not been approved by the Department of Mines may use such conveyor belt until replacement is necessary, in which case the new conveyor belt purchased after the effective date of this act shall meet the requirements of this act and the rules and regulations as promulgated by the Department of Mines pursuant to the authority granted herein.

Effective date.

APPROVED—The 4th day of April, A. D. 1956.

GEORGE M. LEADER