

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

The
Administrative
Code of 1929.

Section 1. Section 1902, act of April 9, 1929 (P. L. 177), known as "The Administrative Code of 1929," amended May 31, 1956 (P. L. 1915), is amended by adding, at the end thereof, a new clause to read:

Section 1902, act of April 9, 1929, P. L. 177, amended May 31, 1956, P. L. 1915, further amended by adding a new clause (e).

Section 1902. Mines.—The Department of Mines and Mineral Industries shall have the power and its duty shall be—

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(e) To seal abandoned coal mines, to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, and to extinguish fires in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public welfare.

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED—The 12th day of November, A. D. 1959.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 523

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 2, 1891 (P. L. 176), entitled "An act to provide for the health and safety of persons employed in and about the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania and for the protection and preservation of property connected therewith," creating and imposing duties on mine safety committees.

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

Anthracite coal
mines.

Section 1. Article XII., act of June 2, 1891 (P. L. 176), entitled "An act to provide for the health and safety of persons employed in and about the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania and for the protection and preservation of property connected therewith," is amended by adding, after Rule 13, a new rule to read:

Article XII., act of June 2, 1891, P. L. 176, amended by adding a new Rule 13.1.

ARTICLE XII.

General Rules

The following general rules shall be observed in every mine to which this act applies.

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Rule 13.1. A safety committee consisting of the mine superintendent, mine foreman, at least one assistant mine foreman, at least one fire boss, or in the absence

Safety
committee:
members, duties,
powers, reports.

of such officials a designated, qualified agent or agents of the employer, and at least two persons selected by the employes working in the mine, shall be formed to acquaint the workers with the shortcomings of the mine as indicated by the State mine inspector, and prescribing appropriate precautions and remedial action.

The mine superintendent shall execute, on behalf of the safety committee, a monthly report on the last work day of each calendar month with the Department of Mines and Mineral Industries, containing a statement that the committee met and a summary of the information that was furnished to the employes.

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APPROVED—The 12th day of November, A. D. 1959.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 524

AN ACT

Amending the act of May 9, 1889 (P. L. 154), entitled "An act to provide for the recovery of the bodies of workmen enclosed, buried or entombed in coal mines," requiring the Department of Mines and Mineral Industries to bring actions of mandamus for the recovery of bodies of workmen entombed in coal mines in certain cases and empowering the court to make finding and decree the death of such persons.

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

Section 1, act of
May 9, 1889,
P. L. 154,
amended.

Section 1. Section 1, act of May 9, 1889 (P. L. 154), entitled "An act to provide for the recovery of the bodies of workmen enclosed, buried or entombed in coal mines," is amended to read:

Duty of court.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That whenever any workman or workmen shall heretofore have been, or shall hereafter be *enclosed, entombed or buried in any coal mine in this Commonwealth, it shall be the duty of the court, sitting in equity, in the county wherein such workman or workmen are enclosed, entombed or buried, upon the petition of the *Department of Mines and Mineral Industries brought whenever* any of the relatives of those enclosed, entombed or buried *so request in writing*, to make an order of court for the petitioner to take testimony, in order that the court may ascertain whether such workman or workmen, or the body or bodies of such workman or workmen, can be recovered or taken

* "Inclosed" in original.