

*accept on behalf of the county gifts, grants and Federal loans.*

Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Act effective  
immediately.

APPROVED—The 20th day of September, A. D. 1961.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 655

AN ACT

Amending the act of April 9, 1929 (P. L. 177), entitled "An act providing for and reorganizing the conduct of the executive and administrative work of the Commonwealth by the Executive Department thereof and the administrative departments, boards, commissions, and officers thereof, including the boards of trustees of State Normal Schools, or Teachers Colleges; abolishing, creating, reorganizing or authorizing the reorganization of certain administrative departments, boards, and commissions; defining the powers and duties of the Governor and other executive and administrative officers, and of the several administrative departments, boards, commissions, and officers; fixing the salaries of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and certain other executive and administrative officers; providing for the appointment of certain administrative officers, and of all deputies and other assistants and employes in certain departments, boards, and commissions; and prescribing the manner in which the number and compensation of the deputies and all other assistants and employes of certain departments, boards and commissions shall be determined," changing the power and duties of the Department of Internal Affairs in relation to the minutes of the Canal Commissioners.

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

The Administrative  
Code of  
1929.

Section 1. Clause (b) of section 1203, act of April 9, 1929 (P. L. 177), known as "The Administrative Code of 1929," is amended to read:

Clause (b), section  
1203, act of  
April 9, 1929,  
P. L. 177,  
amended.

Section 1203. Land Office.—The Department of Internal Affairs shall have the power, and its duty shall be:

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) To maintain and preserve the records of the first titles acquired by the proprietaries, and the Commonwealth, to all the lands within its boundaries, the records of all lands and conveyances from the proprietaries and the Commonwealth to the purchasers of the land, the papers relating to the surveys of the State and county lines, and the reports of commissioners relating to the boundary lines of the State, maps and other papers pertaining to the colonial history of Pennsylvania, [the minutes of the Canal Commissioners,] contracts for, section profile maps and other records of and relating

to the public works, and all other relevant records relating to titles to real estate now or heretofore owned or hereafter to be acquired by the Commonwealth.

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APPROVED—The 20th day of September, A. D. 1961.

DAVID L. LAWRENCE

No. 656

AN ACT

To protect the public safety by regulating the mining of anthracite coal; prescribing duties for certain municipal officers and imposing penalties.

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

Safety from subsidence in anthracite coal mining areas.

Preventative measures to protect public from dangers of coal mining operations.

Section 1. (a) In order to guard the safety of the public in areas above mined areas to prevent the excavation of coal so near the surface, or so deep, or in such other manner as to expose the public to danger, it shall be unlawful for any owner, operator, director or general manager, superintendent or other person in charge of or having supervision over any anthracite coal mine or mining operation so to mine anthracite coal or so to conduct the operation of mining anthracite coal as to cause the caving-in, collapse or subsidence of:

(1) Any public building or any structure customarily used by the public as a place of resort, assemblage or amusement, including but not being limited to churches, schools, hospitals, theatres, hotels and railroad stations.

(2) Any street, road, bridge or other public passageway dedicated to public use or habitually used by the public.

(3) Any track, roadbed, right of way pipe, conduit wire or other facility used in the service of the public by any municipal corporation or public service company as defined by the Public Utility Law.

(4) Any dwelling or other structure used as a human habitation or any factory, store or other industrial or mercantile establishment in which human labor is employed.

(5) Any cemetery or public burial ground.

Guides to mining operators.

(b) Criterion to guide operators in their mining activities shall include bearing strength of coal in the vein or seam, percentage of coal left in place, uniformity of distribution of said percentage, height of vein or seam, nature of immediate roof over seam, nature of floor of seam, pitch of seam, thickness of rock strata overlying