

**COAL MINES - SAFETY**  
**Act of May 29, 1945, P.L. 1132, No. 404**  
AN ACT

Cl. 52

Providing for the health and safety of persons employed in and about coal mines in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; the protection and preservation of property connected therewith; the appointment of first aid and mine rescue instructors by the Secretary of Mines, with the approval of the Governor, fixing their salaries and qualifications; providing for the purchase of trucks and necessary equipment to carry on the work; and making an appropriation therefor.

**Compiler's Note:** Section 1404(b) of Act 346 of 1965 provided that Act 404 is repealed insofar as it relates to anthracite coal mines.

**Compiler's Note:** Section 705(b) of Act 339 of 1961 provided that Act 404 is repealed insofar as it relates to bituminous coal mines.

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

Section 1. On and after the effective date of this act, the Secretary of Mines, with the consent of the Governor, shall appoint three first-aid and three mine rescue instructors to carry on the work of instructing mine employes how to care for persons injured in and about the coal mines of this Commonwealth, and to train such other employes of the various coal companies who may voluntarily seek training in the use of self-contained breathing apparatus, gas masks, first-aid to the injured and such other things or practices essential to the safe and efficient conduct of the work of first-aid and mine rescue.

Section 2. The Secretary of Mines, with the consent of the Governor, shall purchase through the Department of Property and Supplies, three trucks equipped with the necessary breathing apparatus, gas masks, first-aid supplies, analytical apparatus and such other chemical and scientific instruments commonly used and necessary in the work of first-aid and mine rescue. One truck shall be used in the anthracite region and two in the bituminous region.

Section 3. The persons appointed to the position of first aid and mine rescue instructor shall not be under twenty-five (25) or over fifty (50) years of age on the date of their appointment. They shall be citizens of this Commonwealth and shall devote their whole time and attention to the duties of their office. They shall have a mine foreman's certificate, issued by the Department of Mines of this Commonwealth, and shall be in possession of a first-aid certificate issued by the Red Cross, or the Federal Bureau of Mines, or any other recognized authority on the subject of first aid. They shall also undergo an examination arranged and conducted by the Secretary of Mines. The examination so conducted by the

Secretary of Mines shall pertain to the applicant's knowledge and experience in the use of such instruments and equipment as are commonly used in mine rescue work.

Section 4. (4 repealed May 31, 1961, P.L.237, No.133)

Section 5. The persons so trained in the work of first-aid and mine rescue as described in section one of this act shall, upon the completion of a course of training and instruction as may be prescribed by the Secretary of Mines, be granted a certificate of competency. Such certificate shall be issued by the Secretary of Mines upon written notice from the chief of crew that the applicant has completed in a satisfactory manner the course of training and instruction prescribed by the said Secretary of Mines.