

COMMITTEES

VETERANS AFFAIRS &
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
MINORITY CHAIRMAN

AGRICULTURE & RURAL AFFAIRS

CONSUMER PROTECTION &
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY

INTERGOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

TRANSPORTATION

POLICY

SENATE BOX 203046
ROOM 15-EW THE STATE CAPITOL
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3046
TELEPHONE: (717) 787-1463
FAX: (717) 772-2108

EMAIL: tsolobay@pasenate.com
WEBSITE: www.senatorsolobay.com



Senate of Pennsylvania

TIMOTHY J. SOLOBAY
46TH DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE

CANONSBURG BOROUGH BUILDING
68 EAST PIKE STREET, ROOM 205
CANONSBURG, PA 15317
TELEPHONE: (724) 746-3762
FAX: (724) 746-3509


SATELLITE OFFICES

GEORGE WASHINGTON HOTEL
60 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 207
WASHINGTON, PA 15301
TELEPHONE: (724) 223-2114
FAX: (724) 223-2117

GREENE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
93 E. HIGH STREET, ROOM 308
WAYNESBURG, PA 15370
TELEPHONE: (724) 627-9802

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Senators

FROM: Senator Timothy J. Solobay 

DATE: August 9, 2011

SUBJECT: Co-Sponsorship Memo #45: Mine Safety Workers Retirement

In the near future, I will be introducing legislation which would allow certain mine workers employed by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Bureau of Deep Mine Safety to purchase credit for prior non-state service, which is required for their employment and certification by DEP.

The Pennsylvania Bituminous Coal Mine Safety Act (Act 55 of 2008) and Bituminous Coal Mine Safety Act (Act 346 of 1965) require certain individuals to have had at least ten years' prior experience working in an underground bituminous or anthracite coal mine to be eligible for employment with the Department of Environmental Protection in their respective mining field. This legislation would amend §5304 of the State Employees Retirement Code (Title 71, Part XXV) to allow mine inspectors, electrical inspectors and emergency response training specialists employed in accordance with these Mine Safety Acts to purchase credit for prior non-state work service once hired by DEP.

Coal mining has long played a vital role in Pennsylvania's economy and will so for decades to come. This legislation would ensure that mine safety workers receive the same opportunities as other Commonwealth employees and potentially aid in the recruitment of qualified and experienced new workers.

If you would like to co-sponsor this legislation, please contact Hannah Walsh at hwalsh@pasenate.com or 7-1463.