

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 31, 1945 (P.L.1198, No.418), entitled
2 "An act providing for the conservation and improvement of
3 land affected in connection with surface mining; regulating
4 such mining; providing for the establishment of an Emergency
5 Bond Fund for anthracite deep mine operators; and providing
6 penalties," further providing for Mining and Reclamation
7 Advisory Board.

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

10 Section 1. Section 18(g) of the act of May 31, 1945
11 (P.L.1198, No.418), known as the Surface Mining Conservation and
12 Reclamation Act, is amended to read:

13 Section 18. Surface Mining Conservation and Reclamation
14 Fund; Remining Environmental Enhancement Fund; Remining
15 Financial Assurance Fund; Department Authority for Awarding of
16 Grants.--* * *

17 (g) There is hereby created a Mining and Reclamation
18 Advisory Board to assist the secretary to expend the funds for
19 the purposes provided by this act and to advise the secretary on
20 all matters pertaining to mining and reclamation which shall

1 include, but not be limited to, experimental practices,
2 alternate methods of backfilling, selection of reclamation
3 projects, alternate reclamation methods, obligations for
4 preexisting pollution liability, alteration of reclamation
5 plans, reclamation fees and bonding rates and methods.

6 (1) The board shall be comprised of three (3) coal
7 operators, two (2) of whom shall be licensed bituminous surface
8 mine operators and one (1) of whom shall be a licensed
9 anthracite surface mine operator; one member who shall be an
10 operator or employee of a coal refuse energy and reclamation
11 facility; four (4) public members from the Citizens Advisory
12 Council, who shall be appointed by the council; two (2) members,
13 one (1) from the Anthracite and Bituminous Licensed Professional
14 Engineers and one (1) from the County Conservation Districts,
15 who shall be appointed by the State Conservation District
16 Commission; four (4) members of the General Assembly, two (2)
17 from the Senate, one (1) member from the majority party and one
18 (1) member from the minority party, who shall be appointed by
19 the President pro tempore, and two (2) from the House of
20 Representatives, one (1) from the majority party and one (1)
21 from the minority party, who shall be appointed by the Speaker
22 of the House of Representatives.

23 (2) The secretary shall chair the Mining and Reclamation
24 Advisory Board and appoint the members from the coal industry,
25 the coal refuse energy and reclamation industry and the member
26 from the Anthracite and Bituminous Licensed Professional
27 Engineers.

28 (3) All members shall be appointed for a term of two (2)
29 years, except that one-half of the initial members shall serve
30 for three (3) years.

1 (4) All actions of the board shall be by majority vote. The
2 board shall meet upon the call of the secretary, but not less
3 than quarterly, to carry out its duties under this act. The
4 board shall select from among its members a chairperson and such
5 other officers as it deems appropriate.

6 (5) The board shall prepare an annual report on its
7 activities and submit the report to the Senate Environmental
8 Resources and Energy Committee and the House Conservation
9 Committee.

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11 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.