

1 AN ACT relating to coal mining.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 351.127 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Certified emergency medical technicians or mine emergency technicians shall be
5 employed at every licensed coal mine whose employees are actively engaged in the
6 extraction, production, or preparation of coal. Persons employed as mine
7 emergency technicians shall be trained in a manner established in an administrative
8 regulation promulgated by the department. Persons seeking certification as a mine
9 emergency medical technician or mine emergency technician shall be subject to the
10 following additional requirements:

11 (a) All persons seeking certification as a mine emergency technician shall
12 demonstrate drug- and alcohol-free status in accordance with KRS 351.182
13 and 351.183;

14 (b) The drug and alcohol testing for those seeking certification as mine
15 emergency technicians shall be administered prior to the examination for the
16 certification, in accordance with KRS 351.182 and 351.183; and

17 (c) Certification as a mine emergency technician shall not be issued until the
18 results of the drug and alcohol testing have been obtained. Notification shall
19 be given to the person in accordance with KRS 351.184.

20 (2) These emergency medical technicians or mine emergency technicians shall be
21 employed in the following manner:

22 (a) At least two (2) emergency medical or mine emergency technicians shall be
23 employed on every shift engaged in the production of coal, except only one
24 (1) emergency medical or mine emergency technician shall be required
25 when there are no more than ten (10) employees actively engaged in the
26 extraction, production, or preparation of coal on the shift.~~[, and]~~ At least
27 one (1) emergency medical or mine emergency technician shall be employed

1 on every nonproduction shift; and

2 (b) For underground mines, at least one (1)~~[of the two (2)]~~ emergency medical or
3 mine emergency technician~~[technicians]~~ shall be underground at all times
4 while miners are working in the mines. An additional emergency medical
5 technician or mine emergency technician shall be employed for every
6 additional fifty (50)~~[, or any portion thereof,]~~ employees per shift who are
7 actively engaged in the extraction, production, or preparation of coal.

8 (3) If these emergency medical technicians or mine emergency technicians are also
9 employed in other capacities at the coal mine, they shall be available for quick
10 response to emergencies and shall have available to them at all times, the equipment
11 necessary to respond to emergencies, as prescribed by the commissioner.

12 (4) If the licensee selects existing employees to be trained as emergency medical
13 technicians or mine emergency technicians, the employees selected shall be paid
14 their regular wages during training.

15 (5) Certified emergency medical technicians and mine emergency technicians shall
16 receive annual retraining in the manner established in an administrative regulation
17 promulgated by the department, during which they shall receive their regular
18 wages.