

### **351.241 Statement of General Assembly.**

The General Assembly hereby finds and declares the following:

- (1) Thousands of Kentuckians enter underground mines each day to produce coal that is so vital to the economy of our nation and the well-being of its people.
- (2) The underground coal mine is a hazardous environment that constantly requires the highest degree of safety consciousness on the part of every individual.
- (3) Despite training and a variety of safety efforts, each year coal mines continue to take a heavy human toll: large numbers of miners are injured; many are left permanently disabled; and a lesser number pay the ultimate price--death.
- (4) Many activities are performed by a variety of persons; therefore, each coal miner is expected to learn and perform a large number of tasks.
- (5) Miners frequently become engaged in unfamiliar tasks when substituting for others or assisting a fellow worker.
- (6) The American zeal for work and productivity very frequently causes the miner to give second priority to normal safety measures and precautions.
- (7) Studies have demonstrated that experienced persons observing and providing on-the-job counseling to individual miners regarding their work habits can bring about a significant reduction in underground mine accidents and fatalities.

**History:** Created 1976 (1st Extra. Sess.) Ky. Acts ch. 3, sec. 1.