

No. 597

## AN ACT

To amend rule fifty-five of article XII of the act, approved the second day of June, one thousand eight hundred ninety-one (Pamphlet Laws 176), entitled "An act to provide for the health and safety of persons employed in and about the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania and for the protection and preservation of property connected therewith," by permitting the removal of props or timber by blasting or by means of a prop puller.

Anthracite coal mines.

Rule 55 of article XII, act of June 2, 1891, P. L. 176, amended.

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

Section 1. Rule fifty-five of article XII of the act, approved the second day of June, one thousand eight hundred ninety-one (Pamphlet Laws 176), entitled "An act to provide for the health and safety of persons employed in and about the anthracite coal mines of Pennsylvania and for the protection and preservation of property connected therewith," is hereby amended to read as follows:

## ARTICLE XII

*General Rules.*

The following general rules shall be observed in every mine to which this act applies.

\* \* \* \* \*

Cutting of props and timber prohibited.

Method of removal.

Rule 55. No person or persons working in any coal mine or colliery shall cut any props or timbers while the same are in position to support the roof or sides. When it becomes necessary to remove any of the said props or timbers [for the purpose of mining coal that may be supported by the same, to dislodge any of the said props or timbers, it must be done by blasting] *they shall be removed by blasting or by means of a prop puller. Such prop puller, however, shall be designed and constructed with ropes or chains of sufficient length that the person operating the device will not be exposed to the danger of a falling roof or falling coal resulting from the removal of such props or timbers.*

Act effective immediately.

Section 2. The provisions of this act shall become effective immediately upon final enactment.

APPROVED—The 18th day of January, A. D. 1952.

JOHN S. FINE