

Section-by-Section
The Mining Schools Act of 2022
Ranking Member John Barrasso and Chairman Joe Manchin
Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Section 1. Short title. Cites the act as the “Technology Grants to Strengthen Domestic Mining Education Act of 2022” or the “Mining Schools Act of 2022”.

Section 2. Technology Grants to Strengthen Domestic Mining Education.

(a) *Definitions.* Defines relevant terms.

(b) *Domestic Mining Education Strengthening Program.* States that the Secretary of Energy shall establish a grant program for mining schools for the critical purpose of recruiting and educating the next generation of mining engineers and other qualified professionals in order to meet our future energy and mineral needs.

(c) *Grants.* Directs the Secretary of Energy, in coordination with the Secretary of the Interior, to establish a competitive grant program under which the Secretary awards grants to mining schools, as defined. Directs the Secretary of Energy to award up to 10 grants to mining schools with compelling applications and to consider geographic diversity among recipients when awarding grants. States that the first round of grants shall be awarded within one year of enactment and that subsequent grants shall be awarded each following year. Requires the Secretary to consider the recommendations of the Mining Professional Development Board when selecting grant recipients. Describes how funds should be used, including for carrying out studies, research, or demonstration projects related to the production of minerals, as well as mining school recruitment.

(d) *Mining Professional Development Board.* Establishes an advisory board within 180 days of enactment, comprised of five members who are actively working within and for the mining industry. Directs the advisory board to evaluate grant applications, recommend grant recipients to the Secretary of Energy, propose grant amounts for recommended applications, and to perform oversight to ensure grant funds are used as directed in the text. States that members of the advisory board serve a term of four years. Instructs that vacancies shall not affect the powers of the Board and must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment was made and no later than 180 days

(e) *Authorization of Appropriations.* Authorizes to be appropriated \$10 million for each of fiscal years 2023 through 2030. Requires that at the end of each fiscal year, any grant funds not awarded be returned to the Treasury.