

To: The Honorable Shelly C. Chapman

I am writing you about the Patriot Coal bankruptcy, because I wanted you to know what might happen if retired miners like me lose their pensions and healthcare. I am eighty-one years old and I have started working in coal mine when I was seventeen years old and I worked until I was fifty-four. I did not plan to retired then, I wanted to work until was sixty-five, but unforeseen health problems cause me to retired earlier than planed.

If I lose my pension it will put a greater financial burden on me and my family. Also if I lose my healthcare I will not be able to receive the medical care I need, because Medicare does cover everything that I need. For I have several health problems. I have diabetes, high blood pressure, COPD, Black lung, and congestive heart failure, and I am currently taking over twenty different medications for these.

I hope you can see why it is important that you take into consideration miners like me when making your decision. Please listen to those who speak for the working man, and not just to the big corporations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Clyde Asbury Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Clyde Asbury Jr.

