

10-3-12

Dear Honorable Shelly Chapman,

I'm writing concerning the Patriot Bankruptcy and how this will effect my family if I lose my earned benefits such as my health benefits.

I have worked in the mining industry since I was 19 years of age. Often I worked six or seven days a week. I have black lung, but I dont collect any benefits because I have been told that is not the cause of my disability. I have had five heart bypasses and 2 stents and I have been told by doctors that black lung plays a role in my heart problems. I'm 60 years old and have major health problems. Also, I ~~intake~~ prescribed over ten medications. If my family loses my medical / prescription card, I wont have the money to pay the doctors or for prescriptions.

I worked all these years in the coal mines and these benefits were promised to us through contracts negotiated between the company and the UMWA.

So, I'm asking you to please help do the right thing for the hard-working coal miners.

God Bless
William R. Lawson

