

Working Place means a room, breast, entry, cross-cut or pillar where coal is being mined or extracted and where one or more miners per working shift of the mine are regularly employed until the place is finished or stopped.

TITLE I—ADMINISTRATION.

CHAPTER I—*Supervision.*

SEC. 17. There is hereby created in the State Board of Labor and Statistics, hereinafter referred to as the Commission, a department to be known as the "Bureau of Mines," hereinafter referred to as the Bureau.

SEC. 18. The Governor shall select and appoint from a list of eligibles prepared by the State Employment Commission, a competent person to be known as the Chief Mine Engineer, who shall be in charge of the Bureau; provided, that the first appointment under this Act shall be made within ninety days after the passage thereof, to become effective on the first day of October, 1922, and in case of any vacancy in the said office by reason of death, resignation or otherwise, the Governor shall appoint from a list of eligibles prepared by the State Employment Commission a competent person to fill such office.

SEC. 19. No person shall be appointed Chief Mine Engineer who shall not have had at least ten years' practical experience as a mining engineer in the bituminous coal mining industry, and who does not possess a practical and scientific knowledge of the working, ventilation and drainage of bituminous coal mines and of all noxious and dangerous gases found in such mines; provided, that graduation in mining engineering from a school of recognized standing shall be considered as equivalent to two years active practice.

SEC. 20. Before entering upon the duties of his office, the Chief Mine Engineer shall take the oath prescribed by the Constitution, and he shall render an account monthly of his expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of his duties, and also an account of the expenses necessarily incurred by the district mine inspectors which he may approve, and such expenses shall be paid by warrant of the Comptroller, in such amounts as shall not exceed such allowance as may from time to time be provided therefor by appropriation or other law.

The Chief Mine Engineer shall devote his entire time to the duties of his office, and shall have no interest, direct or in-