

**CHAPTER 76**

**(Senate Bill 114)**

AN ACT concerning

**Mines and Mining – Definitions of Operator**

FOR the purpose of altering certain definitions relating to mining and the regulation of miners.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Natural Resources

Section 7-101(k), 7-501(o), and 7-5A-01(h)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1989 Replacement Volume and 1991 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Natural Resources**

7-101.

(k) "Operator" means [any firm, corporation, association, or individual operating in whole or part any coal mine, either as an owner, lessee, or otherwise. The term also includes the representative of the operator] ANY PERSON, PARTNERSHIP, OR CORPORATION WHO REMOVES OR INTENDS TO REMOVE MORE THAN 250 TONS OF COAL FROM THE EARTH BY SURFACE COAL MINING OR DEEP COAL MINING WITHIN 12 CONSECUTIVE CALENDAR MONTHS IN ANY ONE LOCATION.

7-501.

(o) "Operator" means [a person engaged in open-pit mining as a principal as distinguished from an agent or independent contractor] ANY PERSON, PARTNERSHIP, OR CORPORATION WHO REMOVES OR INTENDS TO REMOVE MORE THAN 250 TONS OF COAL FROM THE EARTH BY SURFACE COAL MINING WITHIN 12 CONSECUTIVE CALENDAR MONTHS IN ANY ONE LOCATION.

7-5A-01.

(h) "Operator" means [a person engaged in deep mining as a principal as distinguished from an agent or independent contractor] ANY PERSON, PARTNERSHIP, OR CORPORATION WHO REMOVES OR INTENDS TO REMOVE MORE THAN 250 TONS OF COAL FROM THE EARTH BY DEEP COAL MINING WITHIN 12 CONSECUTIVE CALENDAR MONTHS IN ANY ONE LOCATION.