

Proclamation

by

Steven L. Beshear
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- WHEREAS, Coal miners are hard-working, dedicated, and loyal Kentuckians who work to provide for their families; and
- WHEREAS, Coal miners are a vital asset to the Commonwealth not only as laborers but as devoted citizens because they are known to stay in the state and economically support their communities, education programs, and their respective counties; and
- WHEREAS, Coal miners expose themselves to dangerous risks on the job every day. Therefore, safety is paramount, and regulations designed to protect our miners must continue to be enforced rigorously; and
- WHEREAS, Environmental challenges that face the coal industry should be continually addressed and monitored through appropriate regulations to ensure that our mining communities remain healthy both environmentally and economically now and in the future; and
- WHEREAS, Average electricity costs in Kentucky were 5.43 cents/kilowatt-hour in 2006, the fourth lowest in the United States. Coal provides 49 percent of the electricity in this country and 92.2 percent of the electricity in Kentucky; and
- WHEREAS, Kentucky has been one of the top three coal producers in the United States for the last 50 years; and
- WHEREAS, The Kentucky coal industry paid \$1.035 billion in direct wages in 2006, directly employing 17,669 persons and indirectly providing 3 additional jobs for every miner employed. The average weekly wage for coal miners in Kentucky was \$1,126 during 2006; and
- WHEREAS, The Kentucky coal industry brought over \$3.5 billion into Kentucky from out-of-state during 2006 through coal sales to customers in 30 other states and 4 foreign countries. Kentucky coal companies paid \$221.42 million in coal severance taxes in Fiscal Year 2006-07;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVEN L. BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim November 2009 as

COAL APPRECIATION MONTH

in Kentucky and commend this observance to all.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort this 20th day of October, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Nine and in the 118th year of the Commonwealth.

Handwritten signature of Steven L. Beshear in black ink.

STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Trey Grayson in black ink.

Trey Grayson
Secretary of State

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DATE 10.21.09

TREY GRAYSON

SECRETARY OF STATE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BY P. Kinsolving