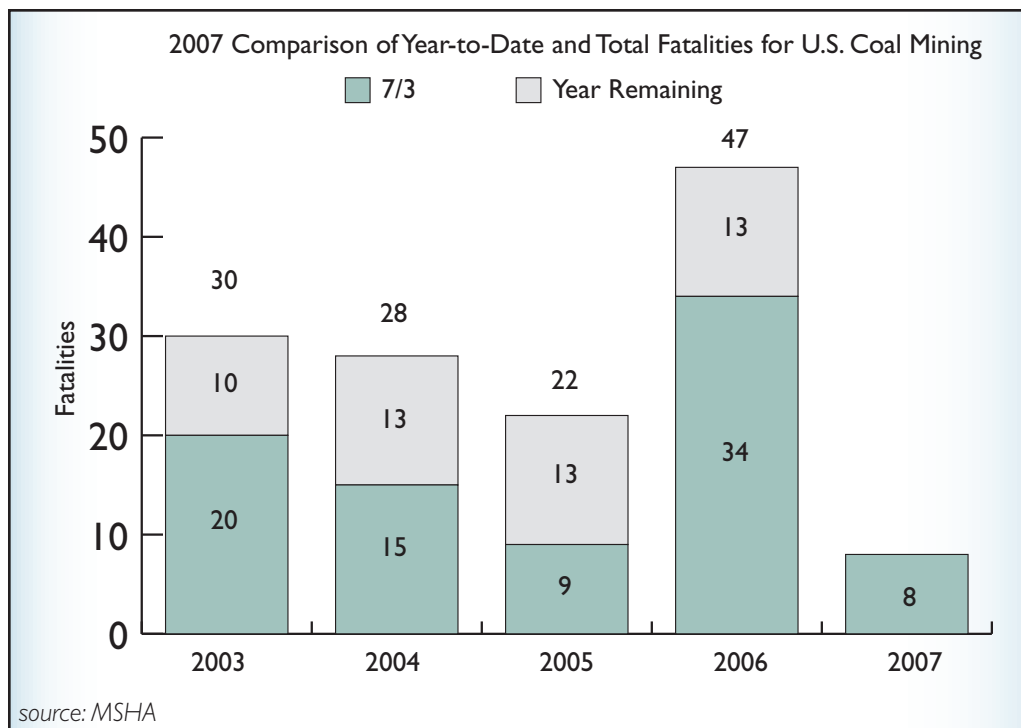


The MINER Act is Working



- The Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act passed Congress last year with both industry and labor support and by overwhelming bipartisan majorities (381-37 in the House and by unanimous consent in the Senate).
- The MINER Act has contributed to success in improving safety and emergency preparedness in underground coal mines.
- NMA member companies have invested more than \$250 million complying with the Act's mandates, more than double CBO's estimates of the cost of compliance.
- The industry is implementing the recommendations of the Mine Safety Technology and Training Commission, an independent panel of technical experts convened to thoroughly examine the mechanics of mine operations and provide recommendations to improve mine safety, many of which go above and beyond the requirements of the MINER Act.
- Mine operators have made considerable progress in adding self-contained self rescuers (SCSRs), improving and increasing safety training for miners, developing post accident communication systems, increasing the strength of mine seals and adding additional mine rescue teams over the last year.



As a result of the MINER Act and industry investments in improved safety, coal mining is back on the path to continued mine safety improvement that existed prior to January 2, 2006, and these successful efforts should not be undermined.

New legislation to change the MINER Act is not needed. Untested proposals could have unintended and adverse effects on mine safety.