

Your Honor,

I am writing on behalf of my husband, Bronnie Parsons, a retired miner. Bronnie is disabled and has suffered numerous strokes, some in recent days. Should he lose his health care would be devastating. He feels that he earned the health care that is now provided by Patriot Coal. He worked for Peabody Coal Co. for 40-44 years. When Patriot Coal acquired Peabody under no circumstances should that acquisition release Peabody from their obligations to provide health care benefits to their retired miners, equivalent to what benefits they had prior to Patriot Coal's acquisition. My husband is 70 yrs. old please take into account the number of men much like Bronnie who expected these benefits to continue for the rest of their lives. Health care is terribly expensive, if available at all, for these men & their families.

Sincerely
Gloria Parsons