

WORKING DRAFT

HOUSE BILL NO. _____

Mining council-experience credit for mine foreman.

Sponsored by: Joint Minerals, Business and Economic
Development Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to mines and minerals; modifying
2 qualifications for mine foremen certification; and
3 providing for an effective date.

4
5 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

6
7 **Section 1.** W.S. 30-2-309(a)(ii) and (c) is amended to
8 read:

9
10 **30-2-309. Mine foreman and mine examiner**
11 **certificates; qualifications; certificate required;**
12 **reciprocity; council duties.**

13
14 (a) No person shall act as mine foreman, unit foreman
15 or safety engineer at any underground mine unless he holds

1 a mine foreman certificate for the type of mineral being
2 mined. Except as provided in subsection (f) of this
3 section, to obtain a mine foreman certificate for a
4 particular mineral an applicant shall pass the required
5 examination for the particular mineral. An applicant for
6 the mine foreman examination shall:

7
8 (ii) Provide verifiable documentation that he
9 has at least three (3) years practical experience in the
10 mining of the mineral in which he desires to hold a mine
11 foreman certificate. Practical experience shall be
12 determined from practical work of a "hands-on" nature,
13 directly related to the hazards involved in the type of
14 mine for which the certificate is sought. Underground coal
15 mine experience shall qualify for gassy metal or nonmetal
16 mine experience. Gassy metal or nonmetal mine experience
17 shall not qualify for underground coal mine experience.
18 Surface mine experience in a different mineral may be
19 considered by the council when qualifying an applicant to
20 take the examination for surface foreman certification;

21
22 (c) A mining engineering degree from an accredited
23 college or university shall be considered the equivalent of
24 ~~two (2) years~~ one (1) year practical experience for mine

1 foreman certificate and one (1) year for mine examiner
2 certificate. In no case shall practical experience credit
3 for an engineering degree exceed ~~two (2) years~~ one (1) year
4 for a mine foreman certificate or one (1) year for a mine
5 examiner certificate. For purposes of this section an
6 engineering degree shall be limited to a baccalaureate,
7 master's or doctorate degree in mining engineering.

8 **Mining Council Comments.**

9 **W.S. § 30-2-309 (a)(ii) adds language to allow experience credit for the surface mine**
10 **foreman certificate to a person who performed the same or similar duties at a**
11 **surface mine which mines a different mineral. Stripping overburden at a coal mine**
12 **is very similar to stripping overburden at a bentonite mine or surface gold mine.**
13 **The person would still be required to pass the examination for the mineral that is**
14 **applied for.**

15
16 **W.S. § 30-2-309 (c) reduces the experience credit for a mining engineering degree.**
17 **Three (3) years practical experience is required to qualify for the mine foreman**
18 **exam. Currently, mine engineers are given two (2) years experience credit for their**
19 **degree towards the foreman certification experience requirement.**

20
21 **There have been problems with engineers that were given experience credit for their**
22 **degree who did not have the mining knowledge gained by education to replace the**
23 **experience gained from actually working in the mine. The Council feels that one (1)**
24 **years experience credit is sufficient.**

25
26 **The state of Utah gives one (1) years experience credit for a mining engineer's**
27 **degree as part of a five (5) year mining experience requirement.**
28

29 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2003.

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31

(END)