

FEBRUARY 26, 2014

**RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 113-41**  
**TEXT OF H.R. 2824, PREVENTING GOVERNMENT**  
**WASTE AND PROTECTING COAL MINING JOBS**  
**IN AMERICA**

**[Showing the text of the bill as ordered reported by the  
Committee on Natural Resources.]**

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Preventing Govern-  
3 ment Waste and Protecting Coal Mining Jobs in Amer-  
4 ica”.

5 **SEC. 2. INCORPORATION OF SURFACE MINING STREAM**  
6 **BUFFER ZONE RULE INTO STATE PROGRAMS.**

7       (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 503 of the Surface Min-  
8 ing Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C.  
9 1253) is amended by adding at the end the following:

10       “(e) **STREAM BUFFER ZONE MANAGEMENT.**—

11               “(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In addition to the require-  
12 ments under subsection (a), each State program  
13 shall incorporate the necessary rule regarding excess  
14 spoil, coal mine waste, and buffers for perennial and  
15 intermittent streams published by the Office of Sur-  
16 face Mining Reclamation and Enforcement on De-  
17 cember 12, 2008 (73 Fed. Reg. 75813 et seq.).

1           “(2) STUDY OF IMPLEMENTATION.—The Sec-  
2       retary shall—

3           “(A) at such time as the Secretary deter-  
4       mines all States referred to in subsection (a)  
5       have fully incorporated the necessary rule re-  
6       ferred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection  
7       into their State programs, publish notice of  
8       such determination;

9           “(B) during the 5-year period beginning on  
10      the date of such publication, assess the effec-  
11      tiveness of implementation of such rule by such  
12      States; and

13          “(C) upon the conclusion of such period,  
14      submit a comprehensive report on the impacts  
15      of such rule to the Committee on Natural Re-  
16      sources of the House of Representatives and the  
17      Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of  
18      the Senate, including—

19           “(i) an evaluation of the effectiveness  
20          of such rule;

21           “(ii) an evaluation of any ways in  
22          which the existing rule inhibits energy pro-  
23          duction; and

24           “(iii) a description in detail of any  
25          proposed changes that should be made to

1           the rule, the justification for such changes,  
2           all comments on such changes received by  
3           the Secretary from such States, and the  
4           projected costs and benefits of such  
5           changes.

6           “(3) LIMITATION ON NEW REGULATIONS.—The  
7           Secretary may not issue any regulations under this  
8           Act relating to stream buffer zones or stream protec-  
9           tion before the date of the publication of the report  
10          under paragraph (2), other than a rule necessary to  
11          implement paragraph (1).”.

12          (b) DEADLINE FOR STATE IMPLEMENTATION.—Not  
13          later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this  
14          Act, a State with a State program approved under section  
15          503 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act  
16          of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1253) shall submit to the Secretary  
17          of the Interior amendments to such program pursuant to  
18          part 732 of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, incor-  
19          porating the necessary rule referred to in subsection (e)(1)  
20          of such section, as amended by this section.

