



**State Representative  
Jack Cera**

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**Cera pushes House panel to take up pension benefit fight for coal miners, families**  
*Legislation urges Congress to move forward keep benefit promise*

COLUMBUS— With uncertainty surrounding the healthcare and retirement of Ohio coal miners, families and tens of thousands of coal miners across the nation, state Rep. Jack Cera (D-Bellaire) Wednesday urged his colleagues on the House federalism committee to pass his House Concurrent Resolution No. 8, legislation calling on Congress to pass the Miners Protection Act.

“Years ago, a promise was made to coal miners that they could earn healthcare and retirement benefits – and I believe we need to keep that promise,” said Cera. “To walk away and turn our backs on miners and their families is against what we stand for as Ohioans and against what we stand for as Americans. Coal miners and their families helped build this country.”

In early May, Congress approved a plan to protect healthcare for coal miners and their families. However, according to the eastern Ohio Representative, the retirement security of coal miners and families is still in jeopardy.

“I have always stood with the hard working men and women who risk their lives in the coal mines. Now, we have a real opportunity to show our appreciation for the long and dangerous hours they work to give us a reliable source of energy by guaranteeing their benefits,” Cera added. “I am happy to lead the fight here in Ohio to protect their pensions, and will continue to do so.”

Cera noted that his resolution has the support of both Democrats and Republicans. He hopes to secure even more support from the House in the coming weeks.