



## GREETING FROM JOE MANCHIN III UNITED STATES SENATOR

On behalf of the citizens of the Mountain State, and as your United States Senator, it is my privilege to welcome those attending the  $40^{\rm th}$  Anniversary Celebration of the National Mine Health and Safety Academy.

Coal keeps our lights on and helps us meet our nation's energy needs, and West Virginia coal miners help sustain our way of life. However, their work can be treacherous, and their safety is the top priority. That is why I truly appreciate the dedication of the Academy, which conducts hands-on firefighting and fire suppression training at the Mine Simulation Laboratory, among other safety training.

Mine safety has come so far in 40 years, but there is always more to do. Keeping our miners safe and healthy is key in securing West Virginia's future. The better we become at preventing mine disasters and preserving the health of our miners, the more coal miners and their families can have some peace of mind. No one should have to worry about workplace safety and the Academy is making great strides every day to advance and improve procedures.

Again, I proudly thank the National Mine Health and Safety Academy and congratulate them on 40 years of keeping our miners safe and healthy. Please accept my best wishes.

With warmest regards,

Joe Manchin III

United States Senator