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# PETITION.

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*To the Honourable Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, in Session assembled :*

We, your humble petitioners, respectfully beg leave to protest against the Bill known as "An Act to amend the 'Coal Mines Regulation Act' and amending Acts," introduced by James McGregor, Esq., M.P.P., which is now before the House, for the following reasons:—

1. We believe, should this Bill become law, it would be an injury and a great injustice to all classes connected with coal mining.

2. Would be the means of causing unnecessary difficulties and endless trouble in the working of mines, both to officials and miners engaged at the various occupations.

3. Owing to the strict discipline maintained in mining, and the number of officers employed, namely, a Manager, Foreman, Fireman, and Shot-lighter for each section, the fatalities have been reduced to a lower percentage than ever before in the history of this or any other country. According to the Inspector's report for 1894, there were only four, being one to every 625 men employed under ground.

4. We believe this Bill will not add to the further security of lives or property, but will only interfere with the liberty of miners employed.

We consider it a question of grave importance that the Bill should be set aside.

And we, your humble petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

J. MATTHEWS,  
 RICHARD BAILEY,  
 PETER McMILLAN,  
 JNO. MUIR,  
 JOHN BULLOCK,  
 And 766 others.

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A similar petition was received from Comox, containing 240 signatures.