

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1427

To amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to improve the Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 13, 2019

Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. RUBIO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act to improve the Network for Manufacturing Innovation Program, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Global Leadership in
5 Advanced Manufacturing Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. IMPROVEMENTS TO NETWORK FOR MANUFAC-**
7 **TURING INNOVATION PROGRAM.**

8 (a) CENTERS FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVATION.—
9 Subsection (c) of section 34 of the National Institute of

1 Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278s) is
2 amended—

3 (1) in subparagraphs (B) and (C)(i) of para-
4 graph (1), by striking “and tool” both places it ap-
5 pears and inserting “tool development for microelec-
6 tronics, food manufacturing, superconductors, ad-
7 vanced battery technologies, robotics, advanced sen-
8 sors, quantum information science, supply chain
9 water optimization, and aeronautics and advanced
10 materials”;

11 (2) in paragraph (2)(D), by striking “and mi-
12 nority” and inserting “, minority, and veteran”; and

13 (3) in paragraph (3)(A), by striking “, but
14 such” and all that follows through “under subsection
15 (d)”.

16 (b) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ESTABLISH AND
17 SUPPORT CENTERS FOR MANUFACTURING INNOVA-
18 TION.—Subsection (d) of such section is amended—

19 (1) in paragraph (4)—

20 (A) in subparagraph (C)—

21 (i) in clause (i), by striking “; and”
22 and inserting a semicolon;

23 (ii) in clause (ii)—

24 (I) by inserting “, including ap-
25 propriate measures for assessing the

1 effectiveness of the activities funded
2 with regards to the center’s success in
3 advancing the current state of the ap-
4 plicable advanced manufacturing tech-
5 nology area such as technology readi-
6 ness level and manufacturing readi-
7 ness level,” after “measures”; and

8 (II) by striking the period at the
9 end; and

10 (iii) by adding at the end the fol-
11 lowing:

12 “(iii) establish standards for the per-
13 formance of centers for manufacturing in-
14 novation that are based on the measures
15 developed under clause (ii); and

16 “(iv) for each center for manufac-
17 turing innovation supported by the award,
18 if any, once every 5 years, conduct an as-
19 sessment of the center to confirm whether
20 the performance of the center is meeting
21 the standards for performance established
22 under clause (iii).”;

23 (B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “,
24 including the Department of Agriculture, the
25 Department of Defense, the Department of

Education, the Department of Energy, the Department of Labor, the Food and Drug Administration, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Science Foundation” after “manufacturing”; and

(C) in subparagraph (E)—

(i) in clause (ii), by striking “without the need for long-term Federal funding”;

(ii) in clause (iii), by striking “significantly”;

(iii) in clause (v), by inserting “and to improve the domestic supply chain” after “technologies”; and

(iv) in clause (ix), by inserting “industrial, research, entrepreneurship, and other” after “leverage the”;

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—No award of financial assistance may be made under paragraph (1) to support a center for manufacturing innovation that the Secretary finds under paragraph (4)(C) does not meet the standards for per-

1 formance established under paragraph
 2 (4)(C)(iii).”;

3 (B) in subparagraph (B)—

4 (i) in the first sentence, by striking
 5 “large capital facilities or equipment pur-
 6 chases” and inserting “large capital facili-
 7 ties, equipment purchases, workforce devel-
 8 opment, or general operations”; and

9 (ii) by striking the second sentence;
 10 and

11 (C) by striking subparagraph (C); and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(6) USE OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—Finan-
 14 cial assistance awarded under paragraph (1) may be
 15 used—

16 “(A) for the purposes described in such
 17 paragraph; or

18 “(B) to carry out Program-wide activities
 19 directed by the Secretary, such as activities tar-
 20 geting workforce development.”.

21 (c) FUNDING.—Subsection (e)(2) of such section is
 22 amended—

23 (1) by amending subparagraph (A) to read as
 24 follows:

“(A) NIST INDUSTRIAL TECHNICAL SERVICES ACCOUNT.—To the extent provided for in advance by appropriations Acts, the Secretary may use amounts appropriated to the Institute for Industrial Technical Services account to carry out this section as follows:

“(i) For each of the fiscal years 2015 through 2019, an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000.

“(ii) For each of fiscal years 2020 through 2030, such amounts as may be necessary to carry out this section.”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking “through 2024” and inserting “through 2019”.

(d) NATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE.—Subsection (f) of such section is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by inserting “coordinate with and, as appropriate,” before “enter”; and

(ii) by inserting “including the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Defense, the Department of Education, the Department of Energy, the Department of Labor, the Food and Drug Admin-

1 istration, the National Aeronautics and
 2 Space Administration, the National Insti-
 3 tutes of Health, and the National Science
 4 Foundation,” after “manufacturing,”;

5 (B) in subparagraph (E), by striking “;
 6 and” and inserting a semicolon;

7 (C) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as
 8 subparagraph (J); and

9 (D) by inserting after subparagraph (E)
 10 the following:

11 “(F) to carry out pilot programs in col-
 12 laboration with the centers for manufacturing
 13 innovation such as a laboratory-embedded en-
 14 trepreneurship program;

15 “(G) to provide support services and fund-
 16 ing as necessary to promote workforce develop-
 17 ment activities;

18 “(H) to coordinate with centers for manu-
 19 facturing innovation to develop best practices
 20 for the membership agreements and coordina-
 21 tion of similar project solicitations;

22 “(I) to collaborate with the Department of
 23 Labor, the Department of Education, industry,
 24 career and technical education schools, local
 25 community colleges, universities, and labor or-

ganizations to provide input for the development of national certifications for advanced manufacturing workforce skills in the technology areas of the centers for manufacturing innovation; and”;

(2) in paragraph (3), by inserting “State and local governments,” after “community colleges,”; and

(3) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) LIAISONS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide financial assistance to a manufacturing extension center established as part of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership to detail a liaison of the center to a center for manufacturing innovation to facilitate the support by the Partnership of at least the following:

“(I) Cybersecurity awareness and support services for small- and medium-sized manufacturers.

1 “(II) Assistance with workforce
2 development.

3 “(III) Technology transfer for
4 small and medium-sized manufactur-
5 ers.

6 “(ii) SELECTION OF LIAISONS.—Selec-
7 tion of a liaison under this subparagraph
8 shall be made in coordination with the ap-
9 plicable center for manufacturing innova-
10 tion.”.

11 (e) REPORTING AND AUDITING.—Subsection (g) of
12 such section is amended—

13 (1) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “December
14 31, 2024” and inserting “December 31, 2030”; and

15 (2) in paragraph (3)—

16 (A) in subparagraph (A)—

17 (i) by striking “2 years” and inserting
18 “3 years”; and

19 (ii) by striking “2-year” and inserting
20 “3-year”; and

21 (B) in subparagraph (B), by striking “De-
22 cember 31, 2024” and inserting “December 31,
23 2030”.

24 (f) EXPANSION.—Subject to the availability of appro-
25 priations, the Secretary of Commerce shall increase the

- 1 number of centers for manufacturing innovation that par-
- 2 ticipate in the Network for Manufacturing Innovation Pro-
- 3 gram.

