

Calendar No. 298

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 701

[Report No. 115–204]

To improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by
designating and supporting manufacturing communities.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 22, 2017

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

FEBRUARY 5, 2018

Reported by Mr. THUNE, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]

A BILL

To improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities.

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

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Made in America Man-
3 ufacturing Communities Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **MANUFACTURING COMMUNITY SUPPORT**
7 **PROGRAM.**—The term “Manufacturing Community
8 Support Program” means the program established
9 under section 3(a).

10 (2) **PARTICIPATING AGENCY.**—The term “par-
11 ticipating agency” means a Federal agency that
12 elects to participate in the Manufacturing Commu-
13 nity Support Program.

14 (3) **PARTICIPATING PROGRAM.**—The term “par-
15 ticipating program” means a program identified by
16 a participating agency under section 3(e)(1)(C).

17 (4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means
18 the Secretary of Commerce.

19 **SEC. 3. PROGRAM TO DESIGNATE AND SUPPORT MANUFAC-**
20 **TURING COMMUNITIES.**

21 (a) **PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary shall es-
22 tablish a program to improve the competitiveness of
23 United States manufacturing—

24 (1) by designating consortiums as manufac-
25 turing communities under subsection (b); and

1 (2) by supporting manufacturing communities;
 2 as so designated, under subsection (c).

3 (b) DESIGNATION OF MANUFACTURING COMMU-
 4 NITIES.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
 6 graph (7), for purposes of the Manufacturing Com-
 7 munity Support Program, the Secretary shall des-
 8 ignate eligible consortiums as manufacturing com-
 9 munities through a competitive process.

10 (2) ELIGIBLE CONSORTIUMS.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium
 12 is a consortium that—

13 (i) represents a region defined by the
 14 consortium in accordance with subpara-
 15 graph (B);

16 (ii) includes at least one—

17 (I) institution of higher edu-
 18 cation;

19 (II) a private sector entity; and

20 (III) a government entity;

21 (iii) may include one or more—

22 (I) private sector partners;

23 (II) institutions of higher edu-
 24 cation;

25 (III) government entities;

1 (IV) economic development and
2 other community and labor groups;

3 (V) financial institutions; or

4 (VI) utilities;

5 (iv) has, as a lead applicant—

6 (I) a district organization (as de-
7 fined in section 300.3 of title 13,
8 Code of Federal Regulations, or suc-
9 cessor regulation);

10 (II) an Indian tribe (as defined
11 in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-
12 mination and Education Assistance
13 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)) or a consor-
14 tium of Indian tribes;

15 (III) a State or a political sub-
16 division of a State, including a special
17 purpose unit of a State or local gov-
18 ernment engaged in economic or in-
19 frastructure development activities; or
20 a consortium of political subdivisions;

21 (IV) an institution of higher edu-
22 cation or a consortium of institutions
23 of higher education; or

24 (V) a public or private nonprofit
25 organization or association that has

1 an application that is supported by a
2 State, a political subdivision of a
3 State, or a native community.

4 (B) REGIONS.—Subject to approval by the
5 Secretary, a consortium may define the region
6 that it represents if the region—

7 (i) is large enough to contain critical
8 elements of the key technologies or supply
9 chain prioritized by the consortium; and

10 (ii) is small enough to enable close
11 collaboration among members of the con-
12 sortium.

13 (3) DURATION.—Each designation under para-
14 graph (1) shall be for a period of two years.

15 (4) RENEWAL.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of an ap-
17 plication submitted under subparagraph (B),
18 the Secretary may renew a designation made
19 under paragraph (1) for up to two additional
20 two-year periods. Any designation as a manu-
21 facturing community or renewal of such des-
22 ignation that is in effect before the date of the
23 enactment of this Act shall count toward the
24 limit set forth in this subparagraph.

1 ~~(B) APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL.—~~An eli-
 2 gible consortium seeking a renewal under sub-
 3 paragraph ~~(A)~~ shall submit an application to
 4 the Secretary at such time, in such manner,
 5 and containing such information as the Sec-
 6 retary may require.

7 ~~(C) MODIFICATIONS AUTHORIZED.—~~The
 8 Secretary may renew a designation under sub-
 9 paragraph ~~(A)~~ for an eligible consortium that—

10 (i) has changed its composition, either
 11 by adding or removing members; or

12 (ii) as part of its application under
 13 subparagraph ~~(B)~~, submits a revision to
 14 the plan submitted under paragraph
 15 ~~(5)(B)(iv)~~ or the strategy submitted under
 16 paragraph ~~(5)(B)(v)~~.

17 ~~(D) EVALUATION FOR RENEWAL.—~~In de-
 18 termining whether to renew a designation of an
 19 eligible consortium under paragraph ~~(1)~~, the
 20 Secretary shall assess the eligible consortium
 21 based upon—

22 (i) the performance of the consortium
 23 against the terms of the consortium's most
 24 recent designation under paragraph ~~(1)~~

and any post-designation awards the consortium may have received;

(ii) the progress the consortium has made with respect to project-specific metrics the consortium proposed in the consortium's application for the most recent designation under paragraph (1), particularly with respect to those metrics that were designed to help communities track their own progress;

(iii) whether any changes to the composition of the eligible consortium or revisions to the plan or strategy described in subparagraph (C)(ii) would improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing; and

(iv) such other criteria as the Secretary considers appropriate.

~~(5) APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION.—~~

~~(A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium seeking a designation under paragraph (1) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require.~~

1 (B) CONTENTS.—Each application sub-
2 mitted to the Secretary under subparagraph (A)
3 include—

4 (i) a description of the regional
5 boundaries of the consortium;

6 (ii) a description of the manufacturing
7 concentration of the consortium, including
8 an assessment of how the manufacturing
9 concentration of the consortium competi-
10 tively ranks nationally according to meas-
11 ures relating to employment, sales, location
12 quotients for an industry's level of con-
13 centration, or such other measures as the
14 Secretary considers appropriate;

15 (iii) an integrated assessment of the
16 local industrial ecosystem of the region of
17 the consortium, which may include assess-
18 ment of workforce and training, supplier
19 network, research and innovation, infra-
20 structure or site development, trade and
21 international investment, operational im-
22 provements, and capital access components
23 needed for manufacturing activities in such
24 region;

1 (iv) an evidence-based plan for devel-
2 oping components of such ecosystem (se-
3 lected by the consortium)—

4 (I) by making specific invest-
5 ments to address gaps in such eco-
6 system; and

7 (II) by making the manufac-
8 turing of the region of the consortium
9 uniquely competitive;

10 (v) a description of the investments
11 the consortium proposes and the imple-
12 mentation strategy the consortium intends
13 to use to address gaps in such ecosystem;

14 (vi) a description of the outcome-
15 based metrics, benchmarks, and milestones
16 that the consortium will track and the
17 evaluation methods the consortium will use
18 while designated as a manufacturing com-
19 munity to gauge performance of the strat-
20 egy of the consortium to improve the man-
21 ufacturing in the region of the consortium;
22 and

23 (vii) such other matters as the Sec-
24 retary considers appropriate.

1 (6) ~~EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.~~—The Sec-
 2 retary shall evaluate each application received under
 3 paragraph (5) to determine—

4 (A) whether the applicant demonstrates a
 5 significant level of regional cooperation in their
 6 proposal; and

7 (B) how the manufacturing concentration
 8 of the applicant competitively ranks nationally
 9 according to measures described in paragraph
 10 (5)(B)(ii).

11 (7) ~~CERTAIN COMMUNITIES PREVIOUSLY REC-~~
 12 ~~OGNIZED.~~—Each consortium that was designated as
 13 a manufacturing community by the Secretary in car-
 14 rying out the Investing in Manufacturing Commu-
 15 nities Partnership initiative of the Department of
 16 Commerce before the date of the enactment of this
 17 Act shall be deemed a manufacturing community
 18 designated under this subsection if such consortium
 19 is still designated as a manufacturing community by
 20 the Secretary as part of such initiative.

21 (c) ~~SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATED MANUFACTURING~~
 22 ~~COMMUNITIES.~~—

23 (1) ~~PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.~~—

24 (A) ~~IN GENERAL.~~—Except as provided in
 25 subparagraph (D), if a member of a consortium

1 designated as a manufacturing community
2 under subsection (b) seeks financial or technical
3 assistance under a participating program of a
4 participating agency, the head of such agency
5 may give preferential consideration to such
6 member with respect to the awarding of such fi-
7 nancial or technical assistance if—

8 (i) such head considers the award of
9 the financial or technical assistance con-
10 sistent with the economic development
11 strategy of the consortium; and

12 (ii) the member otherwise meets all
13 applicable requirements for the financial or
14 technical assistance.

15 (B) PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.—The Sec-
16 retary shall invite other Federal agencies to be-
17 come participating agencies of the Manufac-
18 turing Community Support Program.

19 (C) PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS.—The head
20 of each participating agency shall identify all
21 programs administered by such participating
22 agency that are applicable to the Manufacturing
23 Community Support Program.

1 (D) MULTIPLE MEMBERS OF THE SAME
 2 CONSORTIUM SEEKING THE SAME FINANCIAL
 3 OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

4 (i) IN GENERAL.—If a participating
 5 agency receives applications for the same
 6 financial or technical assistance from more
 7 than one member of the same consortium
 8 designated as a manufacturing community
 9 under subsection (b), the head of such
 10 agency may determine how preference will
 11 be given under subparagraph (A), includ-
 12 ing by requiring the consortium to select
 13 which of the members should be given
 14 preference.

15 (ii) COORDINATION.—If the head of a
 16 participating agency determines that more
 17 than one member of a consortium should
 18 be given preference for financial or tech-
 19 nical assistance under subparagraph (A),
 20 he or she may require such members to
 21 demonstrate coordination with each other
 22 in developing their applications for the fi-
 23 nancial or technical assistance.

24 (E) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days
 25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the

1 head of each participating agency shall submit
 2 a report to the Secretary that specifies how the
 3 head will give preferential consideration under
 4 subparagraph (A).

5 (2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary
 6 may make a Federal point of contact available to
 7 each consortium designated as a manufacturing
 8 community under subsection (b) to help the mem-
 9 bers of the consortium access Federal funds and
 10 technical assistance.

11 (3) FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Under the Manufac-
 13 turing Community Support Program, the head
 14 of a participating agency may award financial
 15 or technical assistance to a member of a consor-
 16 tium designated as a manufacturing community
 17 under subsection (b) as he or she considers ap-
 18 propriate for purposes of such program and
 19 consistent with the economic development strat-
 20 egy of the consortium.

21 (B) USE OF FUNDS.—

22 (i) IN GENERAL.—A recipient of fi-
 23 nancial or technical assistance under sub-
 24 paragraph (A) may use such financial or
 25 technical assistance to support an invest-

ment in an ecosystem that will improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing.

(ii) INVESTMENTS SUPPORTED.—Investments supported under this subparagraph may include—

(I) infrastructure;

(II) access to capital;

(III) promotion of exports and foreign direct investment;

(IV) equipment or facility upgrades;

(V) workforce training or retraining;

(VI) energy or process efficiency;

(VII) business incubators;

(VIII) site preparation;

(IX) advanced research;

(X) supply chain development;

and

(XI) small business assistance.

(4) COORDINATION.—

(A) COORDINATION BY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.—The Secretary shall coordinate

1 with the heads of the participating agencies to
 2 identify programs under paragraph (1)(C).

3 ~~(B) INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION.—~~The
 4 heads of the participating agencies shall coordi-
 5 nate with each other—

6 (i) to leverage complementary activi-
 7 ties, including from non-Federal sources;
 8 such as philanthropies; and

9 (ii) to avoid duplication of efforts.

10 ~~(d) RECEIPT OF TRANSFERRED FUNDS.—~~The Sec-
 11 retary may accept amounts transferred to the Secretary
 12 from the head of another participating agency to carry out
 13 this section.

14 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

15 *This Act may be cited as the “Made in America Manu-*
 16 *facturing Communities Act of 2017”.*

17 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

18 *In this Act:*

19 (1) *MANUFACTURING COMMUNITY SUPPORT PRO-*
 20 *GRAM.—The term “Manufacturing Community Sup-*
 21 *port Program” means the program established under*
 22 *section 3(a).*

23 (2) *PARTICIPATING AGENCY.—The term “partici-*
 24 *pating agency” means a Federal agency that elects to*

(3) *PARTICIPATING PROGRAM.*—The term “participating program” means a program identified by a participating agency under section 3(c)(1)(C).

6 (4) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
7 the Secretary of Commerce.

8 *SEC. 3. PROGRAM TO DESIGNATE AND SUPPORT MANUFAC-*
9 *TURING COMMUNITIES.*

10 (a) *PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.*—*The Secretary shall es-*
11 *tablish a program to improve the competitiveness of United*
12 *States manufacturing—*

(1) by designating consortiums as manufacturing communities under subsection (b); and

(2) by supporting manufacturing communities,
as so designated, under subsection (c).

17 (b) DESIGNATION OF MANUFACTURING COMMU-
18 NITIES:—

(1) *IN GENERAL.*—Except as provided in paragraph (7), for purposes of the Manufacturing Community Support Program, the Secretary shall designate eligible consortiums as manufacturing communities through a competitive process.

24 (2) *ELIGIBLE CONSORTIUMS*.—

1 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*An eligible consortium is*
 2 *a consortium that—*

3 (i) *represents a region defined by the*
 4 *consortium in accordance with subpara-*
 5 *graph (B);*

6 (ii) *includes at least one—*

7 (I) *institution of higher edu-*
 8 *cation;*

9 (II) *a private sector entity; and*

10 (III) *a government entity;*

11 (iii) *may include one or more—*

12 (I) *private sector partners;*

13 (II) *institutions of higher edu-*
 14 *cation;*

15 (III) *government entities;*

16 (IV) *economic development and*
 17 *other community and labor groups;*

18 (V) *financial institutions; or*

19 (VI) *utilities;*

20 (iv) *has, as a lead applicant—*

21 (I) *a district organization (as de-*
 22 *finied in section 300.3 of title 13, Code*
 23 *of Federal Regulations, or successor*
 24 *regulation);*

1 (II) *an Indian tribe (as defined*
 2 *in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-*
 3 *mination and Education Assistance*
 4 *Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)) or a consortium*
 5 *of Indian tribes;*

6 (III) *a State or a political sub-*
 7 *division of a State, including a special*
 8 *purpose unit of a State or local govern-*
 9 *ment engaged in economic or infra-*
 10 *structure development activities, or a*
 11 *consortium of political subdivisions;*

12 (IV) *an institution of higher edu-*
 13 *cation or a consortium of institutions*
 14 *of higher education; or*

15 (V) *a public or private nonprofit*
 16 *organization or association that has an*
 17 *application that is supported by a*
 18 *State, a political subdivision of a*
 19 *State, or a native community.*

20 (B) *REGIONS.*—*Subject to approval by the*
 21 *Secretary, a consortium may define the region*
 22 *that it represents if the region—*

23 (i) *is large enough to contain critical*
 24 *elements of the key technologies or supply*
 25 *chain prioritized by the consortium; and*

1 (ii) is small enough to enable close col-
 2 laboration among members of the consor-
 3 tium.

4 (3) *DURATION.*—Each designation under para-
 5 graph (1) shall be for a period of two years.

6 (4) *RENEWAL.*—

7 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Upon receipt of an ap-
 8 plication submitted under subparagraph (B), the
 9 Secretary may renew a designation made under
 10 paragraph (1) for up to two additional two-year
 11 periods. Any designation as a manufacturing
 12 community or renewal of such designation that
 13 is in effect before the date of the enactment of
 14 this Act shall count toward the limit set forth in
 15 this subparagraph.

16 (B) *APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL.*—An eligi-
 17 ble consortium seeking a renewal under subpara-
 18 graph (A) shall submit an application to the
 19 Secretary at such time, in such manner, and
 20 containing such information as the Secretary
 21 may require.

22 (C) *MODIFICATIONS AUTHORIZED.*—The
 23 Secretary may renew a designation under sub-
 24 paragraph (A) for an eligible consortium that—

1 (i) *has changed its composition, either*
 2 *by adding or removing members; or*

3 (ii) *as part of its application under*
 4 *subparagraph (B), submits a revision to the*
 5 *plan submitted under paragraph (5)(B)(iv)*
 6 *or the strategy submitted under paragraph*
 7 *(5)(B)(v).*

8 (D) *EVALUATION FOR RENEWAL.—In deter-*
 9 *mining whether to renew a designation of an eli-*
 10 *gible consortium under paragraph (1), the Sec-*
 11 *retary shall assess the eligible consortium based*
 12 *upon—*

13 (i) *the performance of the consortium*
 14 *against the terms of the consortium’s most*
 15 *recent designation under paragraph (1) and*
 16 *any post-designation awards the consortium*
 17 *may have received;*

18 (ii) *the progress the consortium has*
 19 *made with respect to project-specific metrics*
 20 *the consortium proposed in the consortium’s*
 21 *application for the most recent designation*
 22 *under paragraph (1), particularly with re-*
 23 *spect to those metrics that were designed to*
 24 *help communities track their own progress;*

1 (iii) *whether any changes to the com-*
 2 *position of the eligible consortium or revi-*
 3 *sions to the plan or strategy described in*
 4 *subparagraph (C)(ii) would improve the*
 5 *competitiveness of United States manufac-*
 6 *turing; and*

7 (iv) *such other criteria as the Secretary*
 8 *considers appropriate.*

9 (5) *APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION.—*

10 (A) *IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium*
 11 *seeking a designation under paragraph (1) shall*
 12 *submit an application to the Secretary at such*
 13 *time and in such manner as the Secretary may*
 14 *require.*

15 (B) *CONTENTS.—Each application sub-*
 16 *mitted to the Secretary under subparagraph (A)*
 17 *shall include—*

18 (i) *a description of the regional bound-*
 19 *aries of the consortium;*

20 (ii) *a description of the manufacturing*
 21 *concentration of the consortium, including*
 22 *an assessment of how the manufacturing*
 23 *concentration of the consortium competi-*
 24 *tively ranks nationally according to meas-*
 25 *ures relating to employment, sales, location*

quotients for an industry's level of concentration, or such other measures as the Secretary considers appropriate;

(iii) an integrated assessment of the local industrial ecosystem of the region of the consortium, which may include assessment of workforce and training, such as that involving women and underrepresented minorities, supplier network, research and innovation, infrastructure or site development, trade and international investment, operational improvements, and capital access components needed for manufacturing activities in such region;

(iv) an evidence-based plan for developing components of such ecosystem (selected by the consortium)—

(I) by making specific investments to address gaps in such ecosystem; and

(II) by making the manufacturing of the region of the consortium uniquely competitive;

(v) a description of the investments the consortium proposes and the implementa-

tion strategy the consortium intends to use
to address gaps in such ecosystem;

(vi) a description of the outcome-based
metrics, benchmarks, and milestones that
the consortium will track and the evalua-
tion methods the consortium will use while
designated as a manufacturing community
to gauge performance of the strategy of the
consortium to improve the manufacturing
in the region of the consortium; and

(vii) such other matters as the Sec-
retary considers appropriate.

(6) *EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.*—The Sec-
retary shall evaluate each application received under
paragraph (5) to determine—

(A) whether the applicant demonstrates a
significant level of regional cooperation in their
proposal; and

(B) how the manufacturing concentration of
the applicant competitively ranks nationally ac-
cording to measures described in paragraph
(5)(B)(ii).

(7) *CERTAIN COMMUNITIES PREVIOUSLY RECOG-
NIZED.*—Each consortium that was designated as a
manufacturing community by the Secretary in car-

1 *rying out the Investing in Manufacturing Commu-*
 2 *nities Partnership initiative of the Department of*
 3 *Commerce before the date of the enactment of this Act*
 4 *shall be deemed a manufacturing community des-*
 5 *ignated under this subsection if such consortium is*
 6 *still designated as a manufacturing community by*
 7 *the Secretary as part of such initiative.*

8 *(c) SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATED MANUFACTURING COM-*
 9 *MUNITIES.—*

10 *(1) PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.—*

11 *(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in*
 12 *subparagraph (D), if a member of a consortium*
 13 *designated as a manufacturing community*
 14 *under subsection (b) seeks financial or technical*
 15 *assistance under a participating program of a*
 16 *participating agency, the head of such agency*
 17 *may give preferential consideration to such*
 18 *member with respect to the awarding of such fi-*
 19 *nancial or technical assistance if—*

20 *(i) such head considers the award of*
 21 *the financial or technical assistance con-*
 22 *sistent with the economic development strat-*
 23 *egy of the consortium; and*

1 (ii) the member otherwise meets all ap-
 2 plicable requirements for the financial or
 3 technical assistance.

4 (B) *PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.*—The Sec-
 5 retary shall invite other Federal agencies to be-
 6 come participating agencies of the Manufac-
 7 turing Community Support Program.

8 (C) *PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS.*—The head
 9 of each participating agency shall identify all
 10 programs administered by such participating
 11 agency that are applicable to the Manufacturing
 12 Community Support Program.

13 (D) *MULTIPLE MEMBERS OF THE SAME*
 14 *CONSORTIUM SEEKING THE SAME FINANCIAL OR*
 15 *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—

16 (i) *IN GENERAL.*—If a participating
 17 agency receives applications for the same fi-
 18 nancial or technical assistance from more
 19 than one member of the same consortium
 20 designated as a manufacturing community
 21 under subsection (b), the head of such agen-
 22 cy may determine how preference will be
 23 given under subparagraph (A), including by
 24 requiring the consortium to select which of
 25 the members should be given preference.

1 (ii) *COORDINATION.*—If the head of a
 2 participating agency determines that more
 3 than one member of a consortium should be
 4 given preference for financial or technical
 5 assistance under subparagraph (A), he or
 6 she may require such members to dem-
 7 onstrate coordination with each other in de-
 8 veloping their applications for the financial
 9 or technical assistance.

10 (E) *REPORT.*—Not later than 90 days after
 11 the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of
 12 each participating agency shall submit a report
 13 to the Secretary that specifies how the head will
 14 give preferential consideration under subpara-
 15 graph (A).

16 (2) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—The Secretary
 17 may make a Federal point of contact available to
 18 each consortium designated as a manufacturing com-
 19 munity under subsection (b) to help the members of
 20 the consortium access Federal funds and technical as-
 21 sistance.

22 (3) *FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—

23 (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Under the Manufac-
 24 turing Community Support Program, the head
 25 of a participating agency may award financial

1 *or technical assistance to a member of a consor-*
 2 *tium designated as a manufacturing community*
 3 *under subsection (b) as he or she considers ap-*
 4 *propriate for purposes of such program and con-*
 5 *sistent with the economic development strategy of*
 6 *the consortium.*

7 *(B) USE OF FUNDS.—*

8 *(i) IN GENERAL.—A recipient of finan-*
 9 *cial or technical assistance under subpara-*
 10 *graph (A) may use such financial or tech-*
 11 *nical assistance to support an investment in*
 12 *an ecosystem that will improve the competi-*
 13 *tiveness of United States manufacturing.*

14 *(ii) INVESTMENTS SUPPORTED.—In-*
 15 *vestments supported under this subpara-*
 16 *graph may include—*

17 *(I) infrastructure;*

18 *(II) access to capital;*

19 *(III) promotion of exports and*
 20 *foreign direct investment;*

21 *(IV) equipment or facility up-*
 22 *grades;*

23 *(V) workforce training, retrain-*
 24 *ing, or recruitment and retention, in-*

1 *cluding that of women and underrep-*
 2 *resented minorities;*

3 *(VI) energy or process efficiency;*

4 *(VII) business incubators;*

5 *(VIII) site preparation;*

6 *(IX) advanced research;*

7 *(X) supply chain development;*

8 *and*

9 *(XI) small business assistance.*

10 *(4) COORDINATION.—*

11 *(A) COORDINATION BY SECRETARY OF COM-*
 12 *MERCE.—The Secretary shall coordinate with the*
 13 *heads of the participating agencies to identify*
 14 *programs under paragraph (1)(C).*

15 *(B) INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION.—The*
 16 *heads of the participating agencies shall coordi-*
 17 *nate with each other—*

18 *(i) to leverage complementary activi-*
 19 *ties, including from non-Federal sources,*
 20 *such as philanthropies; and*

21 *(ii) to avoid duplication of efforts.*

22 *(d) RECEIPT OF TRANSFERRED FUNDS.—The Sec-*
 23 *retary may accept amounts transferred to the Secretary*
 24 *from the head of another participating agency to carry out*
 25 *this section.*

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