

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

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

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

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”;

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

1 Education, the Department of Energy, the De-
2 partment of Labor, the Food and Drug Admin-
3 istration, the National Aeronautics and Space
4 Administration, the National Institutes of
5 Health, and the National Science Foundation”
6 after “manufacturing”; and

7 (C) in subparagraph (E)—

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

10 (ii) in clause (iii), by striking “signifi-
11 cantly”;

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

15 (iv) in clause (ix), by inserting “indus-
16 trial, research, entrepreneurship, and
17 other” after “leverage the”;

18 (2) in paragraph (5)—

19 (A) by striking subparagraph (A) and in-
20 serting the following:

21 “(A) IN GENERAL.—No award of financial
22 assistance may be made under paragraph (1) to
23 support a center for manufacturing innovation
24 that the Secretary finds under paragraph
25 (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:

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-

1 ganizations to provide input for the develop-
2 ment of national certifications for advanced
3 manufacturing workforce skills in the tech-
4 nology areas of the centers for manufacturing
5 innovation; and”;

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

9 (3) in paragraph (5)—

10 (A) by striking “The Secretary” and in-
11 serting the following:

12 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary”; and

13 (B) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(B) LIAISONS.—

15 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary
16 may provide financial assistance to a man-
17 ufacturing extension center established as
18 part of the Hollings Manufacturing Exten-
19 sion Partnership to detail a liaison of the
20 center to a center for manufacturing inno-
21 vation to facilitate the support by the Part-
22 nership of at least the following:

23 “(I) Cybersecurity awareness and
24 support services for small- and me-
25 dium-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.