

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2000

To provide for a competitive grant program for apprenticeship and internship programs through the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2015

Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. TONKO, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. GRAVES of Missouri, and Mr. LANGEVIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To provide for a competitive grant program for apprenticeship and internship programs through the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.

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 “Bridge to Manufac-
5 turing Jobs Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress makes the following findings:

1 (1) In 2012, Deloitte found that the United
2 States has 600,000 unfilled manufacturing jobs in
3 the United States.

4 (2) According to the Georgetown University
5 Center on Education and the Workforce, the United
6 States is likely to experience a shortage of about
7 5,000,000 workers with technical certificates and
8 credentials.

9 (3) According to the Bureau of Labor Statis-
10 tics, apprenticeship occupations are projected to
11 grow more than 20 percent from 2012 to 2022.

12 (4) The Department of Labor found that work-
13 ers who completed an apprenticeship earn an aver-
14 age starting salary of \$50,000.

15 (5) Employers who support apprenticeship pro-
16 grams gain skilled workers, build a pipeline of em-
17 ployees, and reduce staff turnover.

18 (6) Other countries, including Germany and the
19 United Kingdom, have successfully implemented ap-
20 prenticeship programs. For example, Germany, even
21 with less than one-third of the United States popu-
22 lation, has almost 2,000,000 apprentices with almost
23 500,000 sponsoring companies.

24 (7) The Federal Government can play an im-
25 portant role in facilitating the development of ap-

1 prenticeship and internship programs at manufac-
2 turing companies, in particular through the Manu-
3 facturing Extension Program.

4 **SEC. 3. COMPETITIVE GRANTS TO FACILITATE APPREN-**
5 **TICESHIP PROGRAMS.**

6 Section 25(f) of the National Institute of Standards
7 and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k(f)) is amended—

8 (1) in paragraph (3)—

9 (A) by striking “and” at the end of sub-
10 paragraph (B);

11 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as
12 subparagraph (D); and

13 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
14 the following:

15 “(C) may be related to projects designed to
16 facilitate the development and implementation
17 of apprenticeship programs, internship pro-
18 grams, or student work-based learning pro-
19 grams to help serve the workforce needs of con-
20 sortia of manufacturing companies; and”;

21 (2) by amending paragraph (5)(A)(i) to read as
22 follows:

23 “(i) create jobs and recruit and train
24 a diverse manufacturing workforce, includ-

1 ing through outreach to women and mi-
2 norities;”.

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