

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3854

To amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act relating to the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership to provide for enhanced representation on the Advisory Board, better assist United States-based small manufacturers and exporters, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 6, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI (for himself and Mr. POCAN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To amend the National Institute of Standards and Technology Act relating to the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership to provide for enhanced representation on the Advisory Board, better assist United States-based small manufacturers and exporters, 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 “Manufacturing Part-
5 nership Improvement Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP ADVI-**
2 **SORY BOARD; SMALL MANUFACTURERS AND**
3 **EXPORTERS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 25 of the National Insti-
5 tute of Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k)
6 is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (m)(2)(A)(ii)—

8 (A) in subclause (II), by striking “and”
9 after the semicolon;

10 (B) in subclause (III), by striking the pe-
11 riod and inserting “; and”; and

12 (C) by adding at the end the following new
13 subclause:

14 “(IV) at least 1 member shall
15 represent 1 or more labor organiza-
16 tions (as such term is defined in sec-
17 tion 2 of the National Labor Relations
18 Act (29 U.S.C. 152))—

19 “(aa) that is a national or
20 international labor organization
21 subject to section 401(a) of the
22 Labor-Management Reporting
23 and Disclosure Act of 1959 (29
24 U.S.C. 481(a)) with members
25 who are direct production em-
26 ployees in manufacturing estab-

1 lishments, as determined by the
2 Director; or

3 “(bb) that participates in 1
4 or more training programs reg-
5 istered under the Act of August
6 16, 1937 (popularly known as
7 the ‘National Apprenticeship
8 Act’; 29 U.S.C. 50 et seq.), for a
9 highly skilled trade in manufac-
10 turing, as determined by the Di-
11 rector.”; and

12 (2) in subsection (n)(1)—

13 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking
14 “and” after the semicolon;

15 (B) in subparagraph (C), by striking the
16 period and inserting “; and”; and

17 (C) by adding at the end the following new
18 subparagraph:

19 “(D) to the greatest extent practicable, es-
20 tablish partnerships between each Center and
21 the nearest—

22 “(i) regional or district offices of the
23 Small Business Administration to provide
24 training and guidance with respect to the

1 application process for loans guaranteed by
2 the Small Business Administration;

3 “(ii) regional or district offices of the
4 Economic Development Administration of
5 the Department of Commerce to provide
6 guidance in accessing relevant Federal as-
7 sistance for manufacturing;

8 “(iii) regional offices of the Depart-
9 ment of Labor to assist in workforce devel-
10 opment for manufacturing; or

11 “(iv) U.S. Export Assistance Center
12 established by the United States and For-
13 eign Commercial Service of the Depart-
14 ment of Commerce pursuant to section
15 2301(b)(8) of the Export Enhancement
16 Act of 1988 (enacted as part of the Omni-
17 bus Trade and Competitiveness Act of
18 1988 (15 U.S.C. 4721(b)(8))).”.

19 (b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—The National Insti-
20 tute of Standards and Technology Act is amended—

21 (1) in section 25 (15 U.S.C. 278k)—

22 (A) in subsection (a)—

23 (i) by redesignating the second para-
24 graph (7) (relating to the definition of the
25 Hollings Manufacturing Extension Part-

1 nership or Program), and paragraphs (8)
2 through (11), as paragraph (8), and para-
3 graphs (9) through (12), respectively; and
4 (ii) in paragraph (8), as so redesign-
5 nated, by striking “established under sub-
6 section (n)” and inserting “established
7 under subsection (m)”;

8 (B) in subsection (f)(2)—

9 (i) in subparagraph (D), by striking
10 “and” after the semicolon; and
11 (ii) in subparagraph (E), by striking
12 the period and inserting a semicolon; and

13 (C) in subsection (m)(5)(B), by striking
14 “and describe” through “section 23 (15 U.S.C.
15 278i)”;

16 (2) in section 34 (15 U.S.C. 278s)—

17 (A) in subsection (e)(2)(B)(iv)(I), by in-
18 serting “a” before “renewed”; and

19 (B) in subsection (j)(7)—

20 (i) in subparagraph (I), by inserting
21 “and” after the semicolon;

22 (ii) in subparagraph (J)—

23 (I) by inserting “that are” before
24 “additional programs”; and

- 1 (II) by striking “; and” and in-
- 2 serting a period; and
- 3 (iii) by striking subparagraph (K).

○