

113TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 5663

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

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Mr. VEASEY (for himself, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Ms. WILSON of Florida, and Ms. KELLY of Illinois) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology

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## 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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