

112TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6240

To make reforms to taxes, regulations, and workforce development programs in order to increase employment in the manufacturing sector and overall economy.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 31, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, the Judiciary, and Small Business, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To make reforms to taxes, regulations, and workforce development programs in order to increase employment in the manufacturing sector and overall economy.

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 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “Manufacturing Comeback Act of 2012”.

6 (b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

#### TITLE I—RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Sec. 101. Extension and expansion of research and development tax credit.

#### TITLE II—CORPORATE AND INDIVIDUAL PROVISIONS GENERALLY

Sec. 201. Extension of bonus depreciation and temporary 100 percent expensing for certain business assets.

Sec. 202. Extension of increased small business expensing.

Sec. 203. Maximum corporate income tax rate reduced to 25 percent for 2013.

Sec. 204. Temporary extension of 2001 tax relief.

Sec. 205. Temporary extension of 2003 tax relief.

#### TITLE III—WORKFORCE TRAINING

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Industry-recognized and nationally portable credentials for job training programs.

Sec. 303. Skill credential registry.

Sec. 304. Effective Date.

#### TITLE IV—ECONOMIC IMPACT OF RESEARCH GRANTS

Sec. 401. Economic impact of research grants.

#### TITLE V—REGULATIONS

Sec. 501. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 502. Clarification and expansion of rules covered by the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Sec. 503. Expansion of report of regulatory agenda.

Sec. 504. Requirements providing for more detailed analyses.

Sec. 505. Repeal of waiver and delay authority; Additional powers of the Chief Counsel for Advocacy.

Sec. 506. Procedures for gathering comments.

Sec. 507. Periodic review of rules.

Sec. 508. Judicial review of compliance with the requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act available after publication of the final rule.

Sec. 509. Jurisdiction of court of appeals over rules implementing the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Sec. 510. Clerical amendments.

Sec. 511. Agency preparation of guides.

#### TITLE VI—VOCATIONAL TRAINING AT STATE LEVEL

Sec. 601. Findings.

Sec. 602. Sense of Congress.

1           **TITLE I—RESEARCH AND**  
2                           **DEVELOPMENT**

3   **SEC. 101. EXTENSION AND EXPANSION OF RESEARCH AND**  
4                           **DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT.**

5           (a) EXTENSION.—

6                   (1) Subparagraph (B) of section 41(h)(1) of the  
7           Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by strik-  
8           ing “December 31, 2011” and inserting “December  
9           31, 2016”.

10           (2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section

11           45C(b)(1)(D) of such Code is amended by striking  
12           “December 31, 2011” and inserting “December 31,  
13           2016”.

14           (b) ALTERNATIVE SIMPLIFIED CREDIT.—Subpara-

15           graph (A) of section 41(c)(5) of such Code is amended  
16           by striking “14 percent (12 percent in the case of taxable  
17           years ending before January 1, 2009)” and inserting “25  
18           percent”.

19           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by

20           this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after  
21           December 31, 2011.

1 **TITLE II—CORPORATE AND INDI-**  
2 **VIDUAL PROVISIONS GEN-**  
3 **ERALLY**

4 **SEC. 201. EXTENSION OF BONUS DEPRECIATION AND TEM-**  
5 **PORARY 100 PERCENT EXPENSING FOR CER-**  
6 **TAIN BUSINESS ASSETS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 168(k)  
8 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

9 (1) by striking “January 1, 2012” in subpara-  
10 graph (A)(iv) and inserting “January 1, 2014”, and

11 (2) by striking “January 1, 2011” each place  
12 it appears and inserting “January 1, 2013”.

13 (b) TEMPORARY 100 PERCENT EXPENSING.—Para-  
14 graph (5) of section 168(k) of such Code is amended—

15 (1) by striking “2013” and inserting “2014”,  
16 and

17 (2) by striking “2012” both places it appears  
18 and inserting “2013”.

19 (c) EXTENSION OF ELECTION TO ACCELERATE THE  
20 AMT CREDIT IN LIEU OF BONUS DEPRECIATION.—Sub-  
21 clause (II) of section 168(k)(4)(D)(iii) of such Code is  
22 amended by striking “2013” and inserting “2014”.

23 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

1 (1) The heading for subsection (k) of section  
2 168 of such Code is amended by striking “JANUARY  
3 1, 2013” and inserting “JANUARY 1, 2014”.

4 (2) The heading for clause (ii) of section  
5 168(k)(2)(B) of such Code is amended by striking  
6 “PRE-JANUARY 1, 2013” and inserting “PRE-JANU-  
7 ARY 1, 2014”.

8 (3) Subparagraph (C) of section 168(n)(2) of  
9 such Code is amended by striking “January 1,  
10 2013” and inserting “January 1, 2014”.

11 (4) Subparagraph (D) of section 1400L(b)(2)  
12 of such Code is amended by striking “January 1,  
13 2013” and inserting “January 1, 2014”.

14 (5) Subparagraph (B) of section 1400N(d)(3)  
15 of such Code is amended by striking “January 1,  
16 2013” and inserting “January 1, 2014”.

17 (e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
18 this section shall apply to property placed in service after  
19 December 31, 2012, in taxable years ending after such  
20 date.

21 **SEC. 202. EXTENSION OF INCREASED SMALL BUSINESS EX-**  
22 **PENSING.**

23 (a) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—Paragraph (1) of section  
24 179(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amend-  
25 ed—

1           (1) in subparagraph (B) by striking “or 2011”  
2           and inserting “, 2011, or 2012”,

3           (2) in subparagraph (C) by striking “2012”  
4           and inserting “2013”, and

5           (3) in subparagraph (D) by striking “2012”  
6           and inserting “2013”.

7           (b) REDUCTION IN LIMITATION.—Paragraph (2) of  
8 section 179(b) of such Code is amended—

9           (1) in subparagraph (B) by striking “or 2011”  
10          and inserting “, 2011, or 2012”,

11          (2) in subparagraph (C) by striking “2012”  
12          and inserting “2013”, and

13          (3) in subparagraph (D) by striking “2012”  
14          and inserting “2013”.

15          (c) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Subparagraph (A) of  
16 section 179(b) of such Code is amended by striking  
17 “2012” and inserting “2013”.

18          (d)           COMPUTER           SOFTWARE.—Section  
19 179(d)(1)(A)(ii) of such Code is amended by striking  
20 “2013” and inserting “2014”.

21          (e) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 179(c)(2)  
22 of such Code is amended by striking “2013” and inserting  
23 “2014”.

1 (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
2 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after  
3 December 31, 2012.

4 **SEC. 203. MAXIMUM CORPORATE INCOME TAX RATE RE-**  
5 **DUCTED TO 25 PERCENT FOR 2013.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 11 of the  
7 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at  
8 the end the following new paragraph:

9 “(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR 2013.—In the case of  
10 a taxable year beginning in 2013—

11 “(A) in lieu of paragraph (1), the amount  
12 of the tax imposed by subsection (a) shall be  
13 the sum of—

14 “(i) 15 percent of so much of the tax-  
15 able income as does not exceed \$50,000,  
16 and

17 “(ii) 25 percent of so much of the tax-  
18 able income as exceeds \$50,000,

19 “(B) paragraph (2) shall be applied by  
20 substituting ‘25 percent’ for ‘35 percent’, and

21 “(C) paragraphs (1) and (2) of section  
22 1445(e) shall be applied by substituting ‘25  
23 percent’ for ‘35 percent’.”.

1       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
2 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after  
3 December 31, 2012.

4 **SEC. 204. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF 2001 TAX RELIEF.**

5       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 901 of the Economic  
6 Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 is  
7 amended by striking “December 31, 2012” both places it  
8 appears and inserting “December 31, 2013”.

9       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
10 this section shall take effect as if included in the enact-  
11 ment of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconcili-  
12 ation Act of 2001.

13 **SEC. 205. TEMPORARY EXTENSION OF 2003 TAX RELIEF.**

14       (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 303 of the Jobs and  
15 Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003 is amended  
16 by striking “December 31, 2012” and inserting “Decem-  
17 ber 31, 2013”.

18       (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
19 this section shall take effect as if included in the enact-  
20 ment of the Jobs and Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation  
21 Act of 2003.



1                   **TITLE III—WORKFORCE**  
2                                   **TRAINING**

3 **SEC. 301. SHORT TITLE.**

4           This title may be cited as the “American Manufac-  
5 turing Efficiency and Retraining Investment Collaboration  
6 Achievement Works Act” or the “AMERICA Works Act”.

7 **SEC. 302. INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED AND NATIONALLY PORT-**  
8                                   **ABLE CREDENTIALS FOR JOB TRAINING PRO-**  
9                                   **GRAMS.**

10           (a) WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT OF 1998.—

11                   (1) GENERAL EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING AC-  
12           TIVITIES.—Section 134(d)(4)(F) of the Workforce  
13           Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(d)(4)(F))  
14           is amended by adding at the end the following:

15                                   “(iv) PRIORITY FOR PROGRAMS THAT  
16                                   PROVIDE AN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED AND  
17                                   NATIONALLY PORTABLE CREDENTIAL.—In  
18                                   selecting and approving training services,  
19                                   or programs of training services, under  
20                                   this section, a one-stop operator and em-  
21                                   ployees of a one-stop center referred to in  
22                                   subsection (c) shall give priority consider-  
23                                   ation to services and programs (approved  
24                                   by the appropriate State agency and local  
25                                   board in conjunction with section 122) that

1           lead to a credential that is in high demand  
2           in the local area served and listed in the  
3           registry described in section 3(b) of the  
4           AMERICA Works Act.”.

5           (2) YOUTH ACTIVITIES.—Section 129(c)(1)(C)  
6           of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C.  
7           2854(e)(1)(C)) is amended—

8                   (A) by redesignating clauses (ii) through  
9                   (iv) as clauses (iii) through (v), respectively;  
10                   and

11                   (B) by inserting after clause (i) the fol-  
12                   lowing:

13                           “(ii) training (with priority consider-  
14                           ation given to programs that lead to a cre-  
15                           dential that is in high demand in the local  
16                           area served and listed in the registry de-  
17                           scribed in section 3(b) of the AMERICA  
18                           Works Act, if the local board determines  
19                           that such programs are available and ap-  
20                           propriate);”.

21           (b) CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—

22                   (1) STATE PLAN.—Section 122(c)(1)(B) of the  
23                   Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education  
24                   Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2342(c)(1)(B)) is amended  
25                   by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting

1 the following: “and, with respect to programs of  
2 study leading to an industry-recognized credential or  
3 certificate, will give priority consideration to pro-  
4 grams of study that—

5 “(i) lead to an appropriate (as deter-  
6 mined by the eligible agency) skills creden-  
7 tial (which may be a certificate) that is in  
8 high demand in the area served and listed  
9 in the registry described in section 3(b) of  
10 the AMERICA Works Act; and

11 “(ii) may provide a basis for addi-  
12 tional credentials, certificates, or degrees;”.

13 (2) USE OF LOCAL FUNDS.—Section 134(b) of  
14 the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education  
15 Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C. 2354(b)) is amended—

16 (A) in paragraph (11), by striking “; and”  
17 and inserting a semicolon;

18 (B) in paragraph (12)(B), by striking the  
19 period and inserting “; and”; and

20 (C) by adding at the end the following:

21 “(13) describe the career and technical edu-  
22 cation activities supporting the attainment of indus-  
23 try-recognized credentials or certificates, and how  
24 the eligible recipient, in selecting such activities,  
25 gave priority consideration to activities supporting

1 high-demand registry skill credentials described in  
2 section 122(c)(1)(B)(i).”.

3 (3) TECH-PREP PROGRAMS.—Section  
4 203(c)(2)(E) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and  
5 Technical Education Act of 2006 (20 U.S.C.  
6 2373(c)(2)(E)) is amended by striking “industry-  
7 recognized credential, a certificate,” and inserting  
8 “industry-recognized credential or certificate (such  
9 as a high-demand registry skill credential described  
10 in section 122(c)(1)(B)(i)),”.

11 (c) TRAINING PROGRAMS UNDER TAA.—Section  
12 236(a)(5) of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C.  
13 2296(a)(5)) is amended by inserting after the sentence  
14 that follows subparagraph (H)(ii) the following: “In ap-  
15 proving training programs under paragraph (1), the Sec-  
16 retary shall give priority consideration to programs that  
17 lead to a credential that is in high demand in the local  
18 area (defined for purposes of title I of the Workforce In-  
19 vestment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801 et seq.)) served  
20 by the corresponding one-stop delivery system under that  
21 title for the training programs, and that is listed in the  
22 registry described in section 3(b) of the AMERICA Works  
23 Act.”.

24 **SEC. 303. SKILL CREDENTIAL REGISTRY.**

25 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) COVERED PROVISION.—The term “covered  
2           provision” means any of sections 129 and 134 of the  
3           Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2854,  
4           2864), section 122(c)(1)(B) of the Carl D. Perkins  
5           Career and Technical Education Act of 2006 (20  
6           U.S.C. 2342(c)(1)(B)), and section 236 of the Trade  
7           Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2296).

8           (2) INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED.—The term “indus-  
9           try-recognized”, used with respect to a credential,  
10          means a credential that—

11                   (A) is sought or accepted by companies  
12                   within the industry sector involved as recog-  
13                   nized, preferred, or required for recruitment,  
14                   screening, or hiring; and

15                   (B) is endorsed by a nationally recognized  
16                   trade association or organization representing a  
17                   significant part of the industry sector.

18          (3) NATIONALLY PORTABLE.—The term “na-  
19          tionally portable”, used with respect to a credential,  
20          means a credential that is sought or accepted by  
21          companies within the industry sector involved, across  
22          multiple States, as recognized, preferred, or required  
23          for recruitment, screening, or hiring.

24          (4) WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES.—  
25          The term “workforce investment activities” has the

1 meaning given the term in section 101 of the Work-  
2 force Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801).

3 (b) REGISTRY.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days  
5 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
6 retary of Labor (referred to in this section as the  
7 “Secretary”) shall create a registry of skill creden-  
8 tials (which may be certificates), for purposes of en-  
9 abling programs that lead to such a credential to re-  
10 ceive priority under a covered provision.

11 (2) REGISTRY.—The Secretary shall—

12 (A) list the credential in the registry if the  
13 credential is required by Federal or State law  
14 for an occupation (such as a credential required  
15 by a State law regarding qualifications for a  
16 health care occupation);

17 (B) list the credential in the registry if the  
18 credential is a credential from the Manufac-  
19 turing Institute-Endorsed Manufacturing Skills  
20 Certification System; and

21 (C) list the credential, and list an updated  
22 credential, in the registry if the credential in-  
23 volved is an industry-recognized, nationally  
24 portable credential that is consistent with the  
25 Secretary’s established industry competency

1 models and is consistently updated through  
2 third party validation to reflect changing indus-  
3 try competencies.

4 (c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this title  
5 shall be construed to require an entity with responsibility  
6 for selecting or approving an education, training, or work-  
7 force investment activities program with regard to a cov-  
8 ered provision, to select a program with a credential listed  
9 in the registry described in subsection (b).

10 **SEC. 304. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

11 This title, and the amendments made by this title,  
12 take effect 120 days after the date of enactment of this  
13 Act.

14 **TITLE IV—ECONOMIC IMPACT**  
15 **OF RESEARCH GRANTS**

16 **SEC. 401. ECONOMIC IMPACT OF RESEARCH GRANTS.**

17 The Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Com-  
18 merce shall prepare for each research grant made by their  
19 departments a statement describing the economic impact  
20 of the activities to be carried out using the grant funding.

21 **TITLE V—REGULATIONS**

22 **SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

23 This title may be cited as the “Regulatory Flexibility  
24 Improvements Act of 2012”.

1 **SEC. 502. CLARIFICATION AND EXPANSION OF RULES COV-**  
2 **ERED BY THE REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY**  
3 **ACT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 601 of  
5 title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

6 “(2) RULE.—The term ‘rule’ has the meaning  
7 given such term in section 551(4) of this title, ex-  
8 cept that such term does not include a rule of par-  
9 ticular (and not general) applicability relating to  
10 rates, wages, corporate or financial structures or re-  
11 organizations thereof, prices, facilities, appliances,  
12 services, or allowances therefor or to valuations,  
13 costs or accounting, or practices relating to such  
14 rates, wages, structures, prices, appliances, services,  
15 or allowances.”.

16 (b) INCLUSION OF RULES WITH INDIRECT EF-  
17 FECTS.—Section 601 of title 5, United States Code, is  
18 amended by adding at the end the following new para-  
19 graph:

20 “(9) ECONOMIC IMPACT.—The term ‘economic  
21 impact’ means, with respect to a proposed or final  
22 rule—

23 “(A) any direct economic effect on small  
24 entities of such rule; and

25 “(B) any indirect economic effect on small  
26 entities which is reasonably foreseeable and re-



1           sults from such rule (without regard to whether  
2           small entities will be directly regulated by the  
3           rule).”.

4           (c) INCLUSION OF RULES WITH BENEFICIAL EF-  
5           FECTS.—

6           (1) INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANAL-  
7           YSIS.—Subsection (c) of section 603 of title 5,  
8           United States Code, is amended by striking the first  
9           sentence and inserting “Each initial regulatory flexi-  
10          bility analysis shall also contain a detailed descrip-  
11          tion of alternatives to the proposed rule which mini-  
12          mize any adverse significant economic impact or  
13          maximize any beneficial significant economic impact  
14          on small entities.”.

15          (2) FINAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANAL-  
16          YSIS.—The first paragraph (6) of section 604(a) of  
17          title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking  
18          “minimize the significant economic impact” and in-  
19          serting “minimize the adverse significant economic  
20          impact or maximize the beneficial significant eco-  
21          nomic impact”.

22          (d) INCLUSION OF RULES AFFECTING TRIBAL ORGA-  
23          NIZATIONS.—Paragraph (5) of section 601 of title 5,  
24          United States Code, is amended by inserting “and tribal  
25          organizations (as defined in section 4(l) of the Indian Self-

1 Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C.  
2 450b(l))),” after “special districts,”.

3 (e) INCLUSION OF LAND MANAGEMENT PLANS AND  
4 FORMAL RULEMAKING.—

5 (1) INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANAL-  
6 YSIS.—Subsection (a) of section 603 of title 5,  
7 United States Code, is amended in the first sen-  
8 tence—

9 (A) by striking “or” after “proposed  
10 rule,”; and

11 (B) by inserting “or publishes a revision or  
12 amendment to a land management plan,” after  
13 “United States,”.

14 (2) FINAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANAL-  
15 YSIS.—Subsection (a) of section 604 of title 5,  
16 United States Code, is amended in the first sen-  
17 tence—

18 (A) by striking “or” after “proposed rule-  
19 making,”; and

20 (B) by inserting “or adopts a revision or  
21 amendment to a land management plan,” after  
22 “section 603(a),”.

23 (3) LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN DEFINED.—Sec-  
24 tion 601 of title 5, United States Code, is amended  
25 by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

1 “(10) LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN.—

2 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘land man-  
3 agement plan’ means—

4 “(i) any plan developed by the Sec-  
5 retary of Agriculture under section 6 of  
6 the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Re-  
7 sources Planning Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C.  
8 1604); and

9 “(ii) any plan developed by the Sec-  
10 retary of the Interior under section 202 of  
11 the Federal Land Policy and Management  
12 Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1712).

13 “(B) REVISION.—The term ‘revision’  
14 means any change to a land management plan  
15 which—

16 “(i) in the case of a plan described in  
17 subparagraph (A)(i), is made under section  
18 6(f)(5) of the Forest and Rangeland Re-  
19 newable Resources Planning Act of 1974  
20 (16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(5)); or

21 “(ii) in the case of a plan described in  
22 subparagraph (A)(ii), is made under sec-  
23 tion 1610.5–6 of title 43, Code of Federal  
24 Regulations (or any successor regulation).

1           “(C) AMENDMENT.—The term ‘amend-  
2           ment’ means any change to a land management  
3           plan which—

4                   “(i) in the case of a plan described in  
5                   subparagraph (A)(i), is made under section  
6                   6(f)(4) of the Forest and Rangeland Re-  
7                   newable Resources Planning Act of 1974  
8                   (16 U.S.C. 1604(f)(4)) and with respect to  
9                   which the Secretary of Agriculture pre-  
10                  pares a statement described in section  
11                  102(2)(C) of the National Environmental  
12                  Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.  
13                  4332(2)(C)); or

14                  “(ii) in the case of a plan described in  
15                  subparagraph (A)(ii), is made under sec-  
16                  tion 1610.5–5 of title 43, Code of Federal  
17                  Regulations (or any successor regulation)  
18                  and with respect to which the Secretary of  
19                  the Interior prepares a statement described  
20                  in section 102(2)(C) of the National Envi-  
21                  ronmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C.  
22                  4332(2)(C)).”.

23           (f) INCLUSION OF CERTAIN INTERPRETIVE RULES  
24           INVOLVING THE INTERNAL REVENUE LAWS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section  
2           603 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by  
3           striking the period at the end and inserting “or a  
4           recordkeeping requirement, and without regard to  
5           whether such requirement is imposed by statute or  
6           regulation.”.

7           (2) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—Paragraph  
8           (7) of section 601 of title 5, United States Code, is  
9           amended to read as follows:

10           “(7) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION.—The term  
11           ‘collection of information’ has the meaning given  
12           such term in section 3502(3) of title 44.”.

13           (3) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENT.—Para-  
14           graph (8) of section 601 of title 5, United States  
15           Code, is amended to read as follows:

16           “(8) RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENT.—The  
17           term ‘recordkeeping requirement’ has the meaning  
18           given such term in section 3502(13) of title 44.”.

19           (g) DEFINITION OF SMALL ORGANIZATION.—Para-  
20           graph (4) of section 601 of title 5, United States Code,  
21           is amended to read as follows:

22           “(4) SMALL ORGANIZATION.—

23           “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘small orga-  
24           nization’ means any not-for-profit enterprise

1           which, as of the issuance of the notice of pro-  
2           posed rulemaking—

3                   “(i) in the case of an enterprise which  
4                   is described by a classification code of the  
5                   North American Industrial Classification  
6                   System, does not exceed the size standard  
7                   established by the Administrator of the  
8                   Small Business Administration pursuant to  
9                   section 3 of the Small Business Act (15  
10                  U.S.C. 632) for small business concerns  
11                  described by such classification code; and

12                  “(ii) in the case of any other enter-  
13                  prise, has a net worth that does not exceed  
14                  \$7,000,000 and has not more than 500  
15                  employees.

16                  “(B) LOCAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.—In  
17                  the case of any local labor organization, sub-  
18                  paragraph (A) shall be applied without regard  
19                  to any national or international organization of  
20                  which such local labor organization is a part.

21                  “(C) AGENCY DEFINITIONS.—Subpara-  
22                  graphs (A) and (B) shall not apply to the ex-  
23                  tent that an agency, after consultation with the  
24                  Office of Advocacy of the Small Business Ad-  
25                  ministration and after opportunity for public

1 comment, establishes one or more definitions  
2 for such term which are appropriate to the ac-  
3 tivities of the agency and publishes such defini-  
4 tions in the Federal Register.”.

5 **SEC. 503. EXPANSION OF REPORT OF REGULATORY AGEN-**  
6 **DA.**

7 Section 602 of title 5, United States Code, is amend-  
8 ed—

9 (1) in subsection (a)—

10 (A) in paragraph (2), by striking “, and”  
11 at the end and inserting “;”;

12 (B) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
13 paragraph (4); and

14 (C) by inserting after paragraph (2) the  
15 following:

16 “(3) a brief description of the sector of the  
17 North American Industrial Classification System  
18 that is primarily affected by any rule which the  
19 agency expects to propose or promulgate which is  
20 likely to have a significant economic impact on a  
21 substantial number of small entities; and”;

22 (2) in subsection (c), to read as follows:

23 “(c) Each agency shall prominently display a plain  
24 language summary of the information contained in the  
25 regulatory flexibility agenda published under subsection

1 (a) on its website within 3 days of its publication in the  
2 Federal Register. The Office of Advocacy of the Small  
3 Business Administration shall compile and prominently  
4 display a plain language summary of the regulatory agen-  
5 das referenced in subsection (a) for each agency on its  
6 website within 3 days of their publication in the Federal  
7 Register.”.

8 **SEC. 504. REQUIREMENTS PROVIDING FOR MORE DE-**  
9 **TAILED ANALYSES.**

10 (a) INITIAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.—  
11 Subsection (b) of section 603 of title 5, United States  
12 Code, is amended to read as follows:

13 “(b) Each initial regulatory flexibility analysis re-  
14 quired under this section shall contain a detailed state-  
15 ment—

16 “(1) describing the reasons why action by the  
17 agency is being considered;

18 “(2) describing the objectives of, and legal basis  
19 for, the proposed rule;

20 “(3) estimating the number and type of small  
21 entities to which the proposed rule will apply;

22 “(4) describing the projected reporting, record-  
23 keeping, and other compliance requirements of the  
24 proposed rule, including an estimate of the classes of  
25 small entities which will be subject to the require-



1 ment and the type of professional skills necessary  
2 for preparation of the report and record;

3 “(5) describing all relevant Federal rules which  
4 may duplicate, overlap, or conflict with the proposed  
5 rule, or the reasons why such a description could not  
6 be provided;

7 “(6) estimating the additional cumulative eco-  
8 nomic impact of the proposed rule, or the cumulative  
9 impact of any other rule stemming from the imple-  
10 mentation of the Free Trade Agreements, on small  
11 entities beyond that already imposed on the class of  
12 small entities by the agency or why such an estimate  
13 is not available; and

14 “(7) describing any disproportionate economic  
15 impact on small entities or a specific class of small  
16 entities.”.

17 (b) FINAL REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 604(a) of title 5,  
19 United States Code, is amended—

20 (A) in paragraph (4), by striking “an ex-  
21 planation” and inserting “a detailed expla-  
22 nation”;

23 (B) in each of paragraphs (4), (5), and the  
24 first paragraph (6), by inserting “detailed” be-  
25 fore “description”; and

1 (C) by adding at the end the following:

2 “(7) describing any disproportionate economic  
3 impact on small entities or a specific class of small  
4 entities.”.

5 (2) INCLUSION OF RESPONSE TO COMMENTS ON  
6 CERTIFICATION OF PROPOSED RULE.—Paragraph  
7 (2) of section 604(a) of title 5, United States Code,  
8 is amended by inserting “(or certification of the pro-  
9 posed rule under section 605(b))” after “initial reg-  
10 ulatory flexibility analysis”.

11 (3) PUBLICATION OF ANALYSIS ON WEBSITE.—  
12 Subsection (b) of section 604 of title 5, United  
13 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

14 “(b) The agency shall make copies of the final regu-  
15 latory flexibility analysis available to the public, including  
16 placement of the entire analysis on the agency’s website,  
17 and shall publish in the Federal Register the final regu-  
18 latory flexibility analysis, or a summary thereof which in-  
19 cludes the telephone number, mailing address, and link to  
20 the website where the complete analysis may be ob-  
21 tained.”.

22 (c) CROSS-REFERENCES TO OTHER ANALYSES.—  
23 Subsection (a) of section 605 of title 5, United States  
24 Code, is amended to read as follows:

1       “(a) A Federal agency shall be treated as satisfying  
2 any requirement regarding the content of an agenda or  
3 regulatory flexibility analysis under section 602, 603, or  
4 604, if such agency provides in such agenda or analysis  
5 a cross-reference to the specific portion of another agenda  
6 or analysis which is required by any other law and which  
7 satisfies such requirement.”.

8       (d) CERTIFICATIONS.—Subsection (b) of section 605  
9 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

10           (1) by inserting “detailed” before “statement”  
11 the first place it appears; and

12           (2) by inserting “and legal” after “factual”.

13       (e) QUANTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—Section 607  
14 of title 5, United States Code, is amended to read as fol-  
15 lows:

16 **“§ 607. Quantification requirements**

17       “In complying with sections 603 and 604, an agency  
18 shall provide—

19           “(1) a quantifiable or numerical description of  
20 the effects of the proposed or final rule and alter-  
21 natives to the proposed or final rule; or

22           “(2) a more general descriptive statement and  
23 a detailed statement explaining why quantification is  
24 not practicable or reliable.”.

1 **SEC. 505. REPEAL OF WAIVER AND DELAY AUTHORITY; AD-**  
2 **DITIONAL POWERS OF THE CHIEF COUNSEL**  
3 **FOR ADVOCACY.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 608 is amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 **“§ 608. Additional powers of Chief Counsel for Advo-**  
7 **cacy**

8 “(a)(1) Not later than 270 days after the date of the  
9 enactment of the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act  
10 of 2012, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small  
11 Business Administration shall, after opportunity for notice  
12 and comment under section 553, issue rules governing  
13 agency compliance with this chapter. The Chief Counsel  
14 may modify or amend such rules after notice and comment  
15 under section 553. This chapter (other than this sub-  
16 section) shall not apply with respect to the issuance, modi-  
17 fication, and amendment of rules under this paragraph.

18 “(2) An agency shall not issue rules which supple-  
19 ment the rules issued under subsection (a) unless such  
20 agency has first consulted with the Chief Counsel for Ad-  
21 vocacy to ensure that such supplemental rules comply with  
22 this chapter and the rules issued under paragraph (1).

23 “(b) Notwithstanding any other law, the Chief Coun-  
24 sel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration  
25 may intervene in any agency adjudication (unless such  
26 agency is authorized to impose a fine or penalty under

1 such adjudication), and may inform the agency of the im-  
2 pact that any decision on the record may have on small  
3 entities. The Chief Counsel shall not initiate an appeal  
4 with respect to any adjudication in which the Chief Coun-  
5 sel intervenes under this subsection.

6 “(c) The Chief Counsel for Advocacy may file com-  
7 ments in response to any agency notice requesting com-  
8 ment, regardless of whether the agency is required to file  
9 a general notice of proposed rulemaking under section  
10 553.”.

11 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

12 (1) Section 611(a)(1) of such title is amended  
13 by striking “608(b),”.

14 (2) Section 611(a)(2) of such title is amended  
15 by striking “608(b),”.

16 (3) Section 611(a)(3) of such title is amend-  
17 ed—

18 (A) by striking subparagraph (B); and

19 (B) by striking “(3)(A) A small entity”  
20 and inserting the following:

21 “(3) A small entity”.

22 **SEC. 506. PROCEDURES FOR GATHERING COMMENTS.**

23 Section 609 of title 5, United States Code, is amend-  
24 ed by striking subsection (b) and all that follows through  
25 the end of the section and inserting the following:

1 “(b)(1) Prior to publication of any proposed rule de-  
2 scribed in subsection (e), an agency making such rule shall  
3 notify the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Busi-  
4 ness Administration and provide the Chief Counsel with—

5 “(A) all materials prepared or utilized by the  
6 agency in making the proposed rule, including the  
7 draft of the proposed rule; and

8 “(B) information on the potential adverse and  
9 beneficial economic impacts of the proposed rule on  
10 small entities and the type of small entities that  
11 might be affected.

12 “(2) An agency shall not be required under para-  
13 graph (1) to provide the exact language of any draft if  
14 the rule—

15 “(A) relates to the internal revenue laws of the  
16 United States; or

17 “(B) is proposed by an independent regulatory  
18 agency (as defined in section 3502(5) of title 44).

19 “(c) Not later than 15 days after the receipt of such  
20 materials and information under subsection (b), the Chief  
21 Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administra-  
22 tion shall—

23 “(1) identify small entities or representatives of  
24 small entities or a combination of both for the pur-  
25 pose of obtaining advice, input, and recommenda-

1 tions from those persons about the potential eco-  
2 nomic impacts of the proposed rule and the compli-  
3 ance of the agency with section 603; and

4 “(2) convene a review panel consisting of an  
5 employee from the Office of Advocacy of the Small  
6 Business Administration, an employee from the  
7 agency making the rule, and in the case of an agen-  
8 cy other than an independent regulatory agency (as  
9 defined in section 3502(5) of title 44), an employee  
10 from the Office of Information and Regulatory Af-  
11 fairs of the Office of Management and Budget to re-  
12 view the materials and information provided to the  
13 Chief Counsel under subsection (b).

14 “(d)(1) Not later than 60 days after the review panel  
15 described in subsection (c)(2) is convened, the Chief Coun-  
16 sel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration  
17 shall, after consultation with the members of such panel,  
18 submit a report to the agency and, in the case of an agen-  
19 cy other than an independent regulatory agency (as de-  
20 fined in section 3502(5) of title 44), the Office of Informa-  
21 tion and Regulatory Affairs of the Office of Management  
22 and Budget.

23 “(2) Such report shall include an assessment of the  
24 economic impact of the proposed rule on small entities,  
25 including an assessment of the proposed rule’s impact on

1 the cost that small entities pay for energy, and a discus-  
2 sion of any alternatives that will minimize adverse signifi-  
3 cant economic impacts or maximize beneficial significant  
4 economic impacts on small entities.

5 “(3) Such report shall become part of the rulemaking  
6 record. In the publication of the proposed rule, the agency  
7 shall explain what actions, if any, the agency took in re-  
8 sponse to such report.

9 “(e) A proposed rule is described by this subsection  
10 if the Administrator of the Office of Information and Reg-  
11 ulatory Affairs of the Office of Management and Budget,  
12 the head of the agency (or the delegatee of the head of  
13 the agency), or an independent regulatory agency deter-  
14 mines that the proposed rule is likely to result in—

15 “(1) an annual effect on the economy of  
16 \$100,000,000 or more;

17 “(2) a major increase in costs or prices for con-  
18 sumers, individual industries, Federal, State, or local  
19 governments, tribal organizations, or geographic re-  
20 gions;

21 “(3) significant adverse effects on competition,  
22 employment, investment, productivity, innovation, or  
23 on the ability of United States-based enterprises to  
24 compete with foreign-based enterprises in domestic  
25 and export markets; or



1           “(4) a significant economic impact on a sub-  
2           stantial number of small entities.

3           “(f) Upon application by the agency, the Chief Coun-  
4           sel for Advocacy of the Small Business Administration  
5           may waive the requirements of subsections (b) through (e)  
6           if the Chief Counsel determines that compliance with the  
7           requirements of such subsections are impracticable, un-  
8           necessary, or contrary to the public interest.”.

9           **SEC. 507. PERIODIC REVIEW OF RULES.**

10          Section 610 of title 5, United States Code, is amend-  
11          ed to read as follows:

12          **“§ 610. Periodic review of rules**

13          “(a) Not later than 180 days after the enactment of  
14          the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011,  
15          each agency shall publish in the Federal Register and  
16          place on its website a plan for the periodic review of rules  
17          issued by the agency which the head of the agency deter-  
18          mines have a significant economic impact on a substantial  
19          number of small entities. Such determination shall be  
20          made without regard to whether the agency performed an  
21          analysis under section 604. The purpose of the review  
22          shall be to determine whether such rules should be contin-  
23          ued without change, or should be amended or rescinded,  
24          consistent with the stated objectives of applicable statutes,  
25          to minimize any adverse significant economic impacts or

1 maximize any beneficial significant economic impacts on  
2 a substantial number of small entities. Such plan may be  
3 amended by the agency at any time by publishing the revi-  
4 sion in the Federal Register and subsequently placing the  
5 amended plan on the agency’s website.

6 “(b) The plan shall provide for the review of all such  
7 agency rules existing on the date of the enactment of the  
8 Regulatory Flexibility Improvements Act of 2011 within  
9 10 years of the date of publication of the plan in the Fed-  
10 eral Register and for review of rules adopted after the date  
11 of enactment of the Regulatory Flexibility Improvements  
12 Act of 2011 within 10 years after the publication of the  
13 final rule in the Federal Register. If the head of the agen-  
14 cy determines that completion of the review of existing  
15 rules is not feasible by the established date, the head of  
16 the agency shall so certify in a statement published in the  
17 Federal Register and may extend the review for not longer  
18 than 2 years after publication of notice of extension in  
19 the Federal Register. Such certification and notice shall  
20 be sent to the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small  
21 Business Administration and the Congress.

22 “(c) The plan shall include a section that details how  
23 an agency will conduct outreach to and meaningfully in-  
24 clude small businesses for the purposes of carrying out  
25 this section. The agency shall include in this section a plan

1 for how the agency will contact small businesses and gath-  
2 er their input on existing agency rules.

3 “(d) Each agency shall annually submit a report re-  
4 garding the results of its review pursuant to such plan  
5 to the Congress, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the  
6 Small Business Administration, and, in the case of agen-  
7 cies other than independent regulatory agencies (as de-  
8 fined in section 3502(5) of title 44) to the Administrator  
9 of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs of the  
10 Office of Management and Budget. Such report shall in-  
11 clude the identification of any rule with respect to which  
12 the head of the agency made a determination described  
13 in paragraph (5) or (6) of subsection (e) and a detailed  
14 explanation of the reasons for such determination.

15 “(e) In reviewing a rule pursuant to subsections (a)  
16 through (d), the agency shall amend or rescind the rule  
17 to minimize any adverse significant economic impact on  
18 a substantial number of small entities or disproportionate  
19 economic impact on a specific class of small entities, or  
20 maximize any beneficial significant economic impact of the  
21 rule on a substantial number of small entities to the great-  
22 est extent possible, consistent with the stated objectives  
23 of applicable statutes. In amending or rescinding the rule,  
24 the agency shall consider the following factors:

25 “(1) The continued need for the rule.

1           “(2) The nature of complaints received by the  
2 agency from small entities concerning the rule.

3           “(3) Comments by the Regulatory Enforcement  
4 Ombudsman and the Chief Counsel for Advocacy of  
5 the Small Business Administration.

6           “(4) The complexity of the rule.

7           “(5) The extent to which the rule overlaps, du-  
8 plicates, or conflicts with other Federal rules and,  
9 unless the head of the agency determines it to be in-  
10 feasible, State, territorial, and local rules.

11           “(6) The contribution of the rule to the cumu-  
12 lative economic impact of all Federal rules on the  
13 class of small entities affected by the rule, unless the  
14 head of the agency determines that such calculations  
15 cannot be made and reports that determination in  
16 the annual report required under subsection (d).

17           “(7) The length of time since the rule has been  
18 evaluated or the degree to which technology, eco-  
19 nomic conditions, or other factors have changed in  
20 the area affected by the rule.

21           “(f) The agency shall publish in the Federal Register  
22 and on its website a list of rules to be reviewed pursuant  
23 to such plan. Such publication shall include a brief de-  
24 scription of the rule, the reason why the agency deter-  
25 mined that it has a significant economic impact on a sub-

1 stantial number of small entities (without regard to wheth-  
2 er it had prepared a final regulatory flexibility analysis  
3 for the rule), and request comments from the public, the  
4 Chief Counsel for Advocacy of the Small Business Admin-  
5 istration, and the Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman  
6 concerning the enforcement of the rule.”.

7 **SEC. 508. JUDICIAL REVIEW OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE RE-**  
8 **QUIREMENTS OF THE REGULATORY FLEXI-**  
9 **BILITY ACT AVAILABLE AFTER PUBLICATION**  
10 **OF THE FINAL RULE.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 611(a)  
12 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking  
13 “final agency action” and inserting “such rule”.

14 (b) JURISDICTION.—Paragraph (2) of such section is  
15 amended by inserting “(or which would have such jurisdic-  
16 tion if publication of the final rule constituted final agency  
17 action)” after “provision of law,”.

18 (c) TIME FOR BRINGING ACTION.—Paragraph (3) of  
19 such section is amended—

20 (1) by striking “final agency action” and insert-  
21 ing “publication of the final rule”; and

22 (2) by inserting “, in the case of a rule for  
23 which the date of final agency action is the same  
24 date as the publication of the final rule,” after “ex-  
25 cept that”.

1 (d) INTERVENTION BY CHIEF COUNSEL FOR ADVO-  
2 CACY.—Subsection (b) of section 612 of title 5, United  
3 States Code, is amended by inserting before the first pe-  
4 riod “or agency compliance with section 601, 603, 604,  
5 605(b), 609, or 610”.

6 **SEC. 509. JURISDICTION OF COURT OF APPEALS OVER**  
7 **RULES IMPLEMENTING THE REGULATORY**  
8 **FLEXIBILITY ACT.**

9 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2342 of title 28, United  
10 States Code, is amended—

11 (1) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” at the  
12 end;

13 (2) in paragraph (7), by striking the period at  
14 the end and inserting “; and”; and

15 (3) by inserting after paragraph (7) the fol-  
16 lowing new paragraph:

17 “(8) all final rules under section 608(a) of title  
18 5.”.

19 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Paragraph (3) of  
20 section 2341 of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

21 (1) in subparagraph (D), by striking “and” at  
22 the end;

23 (2) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period  
24 at the end and inserting “; and”; and

1           (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
2 paragraph:

3                   “(F) the Office of Advocacy of the Small  
4 Business Administration, when the final rule is  
5 under section 608(a) of title 5.”.

6           (c) AUTHORIZATION TO INTERVENE AND COMMENT  
7 ON AGENCY COMPLIANCE WITH ADMINISTRATIVE PROCE-  
8 DURE.—Subsection (b) of section 612 of title 5, United  
9 States Code, is amended by inserting “chapter 5, and  
10 chapter 7,” after “this chapter,”.

11 **SEC. 510. CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.**

12           (a) Section 601 of title 5, United States Code, is  
13 amended—

14                   (1) in paragraph (1)—

15                           (A) by striking the semicolon at the end  
16 and inserting a period; and

17                           (B) by striking “(1) the term” and insert-  
18 ing the following:

19                                   “(1) AGENCY.—The term”;

20                   (2) in paragraph (3)—

21                           (A) by striking the semicolon at the end  
22 and inserting a period; and

23                           (B) by striking “(3) the term” and insert-  
24 ing the following:

25                                   “(3) SMALL BUSINESS.—The term”;

1 (3) in paragraph (5)—

2 (A) by striking the semicolon at the end  
3 and inserting a period; and

4 (B) by striking “(5) the term” and insert-  
5 ing the following:

6 “(5) SMALL GOVERNMENTAL JURISDICTION.—  
7 The term”; and

8 (4) in paragraph (6)—

9 (A) by striking “; and” and inserting a pe-  
10 riod; and

11 (B) by striking “(6) the term” and insert-  
12 ing the following:

13 “(6) SMALL ENTITY.—The term”.

14 (b) The heading of section 605 of title 5, United  
15 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

16 “§ 605. **Incorporations by reference and certifi-**  
17 **cations”.**

18 (c) The table of sections for chapter 6 of title 5,  
19 United States Code, is amended—

20 (1) by striking the item relating to section 605  
21 and inserting the following new item:

“605. Incorporations by reference and certifications.”;

22 (2) by striking the item relating to section 607  
23 and inserting the following new item:

“607. Quantification requirements.”;

24 and



1           (3) by striking the item relating to section 608  
2           and inserting the following:

“608. Additional powers of Chief Counsel for Advocacy.”.

3           (d) Chapter 6 of title 5, United States Code, is  
4 amended as follows:

5           (1) In section 603, by striking subsection (d).

6           (2) In section 604(a) by striking the second  
7 paragraph (6).

8 **SEC. 511. AGENCY PREPARATION OF GUIDES.**

9           Section 212(a)(5) the Small Business Regulatory En-  
10 forcement Fairness Act of 1996 (5 U.S.C. 601 note) is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12           “(5) AGENCY PREPARATION OF GUIDES.—The  
13 agency shall, in its sole discretion, taking into ac-  
14 count the subject matter of the rule and the lan-  
15 guage of relevant statutes, ensure that the guide is  
16 written using sufficiently plain language likely to be  
17 understood by affected small entities. Agencies may  
18 prepare separate guides covering groups or classes of  
19 similarly affected small entities and may cooperate  
20 with associations of small entities to distribute such  
21 guides. In developing guides, agencies shall solicit  
22 input from affected small entities or associations of  
23 affected small entities. An agency may prepare  
24 guides and apply this section with respect to a rule  
25 or a group of related rules.”.

1                   **TITLE VI—VOCATIONAL**  
2                   **TRAINING AT STATE LEVEL**

3 **SEC. 601. FINDINGS.**

4           The Congress finds that—

5                   (1) high schools, community colleges, technical  
6           schools, as well as public and private universities  
7           and colleges should, when opportunities are available  
8           and viable, establish local and statewide partnerships  
9           with industry, especially manufacturing companies;

10                   (2) these partnerships include, but are not lim-  
11           ited to, targeting curriculum and course work, in  
12           conjunction with private businesses and industry cer-  
13           tification organizations that provide industry recog-  
14           nized nationally portable skills to meet the needs of  
15           industry; and

16                   (3) these partnerships will connect the intellec-  
17           tual knowledge available at our technical colleges,  
18           our two year universities, and at our four year col-  
19           leges and universities with business leaders in order  
20           to create a synergism that encourages businesses to  
21           grow and expand through the availability of a higher  
22           skilled workforce.

1 **SEC. 602. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

2       It is the sense of Congress that schools should estab-  
3 lish local and statewide partnerships with industry, espe-  
4 cially manufacturing companies.

○