

**Calendar No. 298**115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION**S. 701****[Report No. 115–204]**

To improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 22, 2017

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

FEBRUARY 5, 2018

Reported by Mr. THUNE, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italic*]**A BILL**

To improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Made in America Man-  
3 ufacturing Communities Act of 2017”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act:

6 (1) **MANUFACTURING COMMUNITY SUPPORT**  
7 **PROGRAM.**—The term “Manufacturing Community  
8 Support Program” means the program established  
9 under section 3(a).

10 (2) **PARTICIPATING AGENCY.**—The term “par-  
11 ticipating agency” means a Federal agency that  
12 elects to participate in the Manufacturing Commu-  
13 nity Support Program.

14 (3) **PARTICIPATING PROGRAM.**—The term “par-  
15 ticipating program” means a program identified by  
16 a participating agency under section 3(e)(1)(C).

17 (4) **SECRETARY.**—The term “Secretary” means  
18 the Secretary of Commerce.

19 **SEC. 3. PROGRAM TO DESIGNATE AND SUPPORT MANUFAC-**  
20 **TURING COMMUNITIES.**

21 (a) **PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.**—The Secretary shall es-  
22 tablish a program to improve the competitiveness of  
23 United States manufacturing—

24 (1) by designating consortiums as manufac-  
25 turing communities under subsection (b); and

1           (2) by supporting manufacturing communities,  
2           as so designated, under subsection (c).

3           (b) DESIGNATION OF MANUFACTURING COMMU-  
4           NITIES.—

5           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
6           graph (7), for purposes of the Manufacturing Com-  
7           munity Support Program, the Secretary shall des-  
8           ignate eligible consortiums as manufacturing com-  
9           munities through a competitive process.

10          (2) ELIGIBLE CONSORTIUMS.—

11           (A) IN GENERAL.—An eligible consortium  
12           is a consortium that—

13                   (i) represents a region defined by the  
14                   consortium in accordance with subpara-  
15                   graph (B);

16                   (ii) includes at least one—

17                           (I) institution of higher edu-  
18                           cation;

19                           (II) a private sector entity; and

20                           (III) a government entity;

21                   (iii) may include one or more—

22                           (I) private sector partners;

23                           (II) institutions of higher edu-  
24                           cation;

25                           (III) government entities;

1                   (IV) economic development and  
2 other community and labor groups;

3                   (V) financial institutions; or

4                   (VI) utilities;

5 (iv) has, as a lead applicant—

6                   (I) a district organization (as de-  
7 fined in section 300.3 of title 13,  
8 Code of Federal Regulations, or suc-  
9 cessor regulation);

10                  (II) an Indian tribe (as defined  
11 in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-  
12 mination and Education Assistance  
13 Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)) or a consor-  
14 tium of Indian tribes;

15                  (III) a State or a political sub-  
16 division of a State, including a special  
17 purpose unit of a State or local gov-  
18 ernment engaged in economic or in-  
19 frastructure development activities; or  
20 a consortium of political subdivisions;

21                  (IV) an institution of higher edu-  
22 cation or a consortium of institutions  
23 of higher education; or

24                  (V) a public or private nonprofit  
25 organization or association that has

1 an application that is supported by a  
2 State, a political subdivision of a  
3 State, or a native community.

4 (B) REGIONS.—Subject to approval by the  
5 Secretary, a consortium may define the region  
6 that it represents if the region—

7 (i) is large enough to contain critical  
8 elements of the key technologies or supply  
9 chain prioritized by the consortium; and

10 (ii) is small enough to enable close  
11 collaboration among members of the con-  
12 sortium.

13 (3) DURATION.—Each designation under para-  
14 graph (1) shall be for a period of two years.

15 (4) RENEWAL.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—Upon receipt of an ap-  
17 plication submitted under subparagraph (B),  
18 the Secretary may renew a designation made  
19 under paragraph (1) for up to two additional  
20 two-year periods. Any designation as a manu-  
21 facturing community or renewal of such des-  
22 ignation that is in effect before the date of the  
23 enactment of this Act shall count toward the  
24 limit set forth in this subparagraph.

1           (B) APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL.—An eli-  
2           gible consortium seeking a renewal under sub-  
3           paragraph (A) shall submit an application to  
4           the Secretary at such time, in such manner,  
5           and containing such information as the Sec-  
6           retary may require.

7           (C) MODIFICATIONS AUTHORIZED.—The  
8           Secretary may renew a designation under sub-  
9           paragraph (A) for an eligible consortium that—

10           (i) has changed its composition, either  
11           by adding or removing members; or

12           (ii) as part of its application under  
13           subparagraph (B), submits a revision to  
14           the plan submitted under paragraph  
15           (5)(B)(iv) or the strategy submitted under  
16           paragraph (5)(B)(v).

17           (D) EVALUATION FOR RENEWAL.—In de-  
18           termining whether to renew a designation of an  
19           eligible consortium under paragraph (1), the  
20           Secretary shall assess the eligible consortium  
21           based upon—

22           (i) the performance of the consortium  
23           against the terms of the consortium's most  
24           recent designation under paragraph (1)

1 and any post-designation awards the con-  
2 sortium may have received;

3 (ii) the progress the consortium has  
4 made with respect to project-specific  
5 metrics the consortium proposed in the  
6 consortium's application for the most re-  
7 cent designation under paragraph (1), par-  
8 ticularly with respect to those metrics that  
9 were designed to help communities track  
10 their own progress;

11 (iii) whether any changes to the com-  
12 position of the eligible consortium or revi-  
13 sions to the plan or strategy described in  
14 subparagraph (C)(ii) would improve the  
15 competitiveness of United States manufac-  
16 turing; and

17 (iv) such other criteria as the Sec-  
18 retary considers appropriate.

19 ~~(5) APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION.—~~

20 ~~(A) IN GENERAL.—~~An eligible consortium  
21 seeking a designation under paragraph (1) shall  
22 submit an application to the Secretary at such  
23 time and in such manner as the Secretary may  
24 require.

1           (B) CONTENTS.—Each application sub-  
2           mitted to the Secretary under subparagraph (A)  
3           include—

4                   (i) a description of the regional  
5                   boundaries of the consortium;

6                   (ii) a description of the manufacturing  
7                   concentration of the consortium, including  
8                   an assessment of how the manufacturing  
9                   concentration of the consortium competi-  
10                  tively ranks nationally according to meas-  
11                  ures relating to employment, sales, location  
12                  quotients for an industry's level of con-  
13                  centration, or such other measures as the  
14                  Secretary considers appropriate;

15                  (iii) an integrated assessment of the  
16                  local industrial ecosystem of the region of  
17                  the consortium, which may include assess-  
18                  ment of workforce and training, supplier  
19                  network, research and innovation, infra-  
20                  structure or site development, trade and  
21                  international investment, operational im-  
22                  provements, and capital access components  
23                  needed for manufacturing activities in such  
24                  region;



1 (iv) an evidence-based plan for devel-  
2 oping components of such ecosystem (se-  
3 lected by the consortium)—

4 (I) by making specific invest-  
5 ments to address gaps in such eco-  
6 system; and

7 (II) by making the manufac-  
8 turing of the region of the consortium  
9 uniquely competitive;

10 (v) a description of the investments  
11 the consortium proposes and the imple-  
12 mentation strategy the consortium intends  
13 to use to address gaps in such ecosystem;

14 (vi) a description of the outcome-  
15 based metrics, benchmarks, and milestones  
16 that the consortium will track and the  
17 evaluation methods the consortium will use  
18 while designated as a manufacturing com-  
19 munity to gauge performance of the strat-  
20 egy of the consortium to improve the man-  
21 ufacturing in the region of the consortium;  
22 and

23 (vii) such other matters as the Sec-  
24 retary considers appropriate.

1           (6) EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.—The Sec-  
 2           retary shall evaluate each application received under  
 3           paragraph (5) to determine—

4                   (A) whether the applicant demonstrates a  
 5                   significant level of regional cooperation in their  
 6                   proposal; and

7                   (B) how the manufacturing concentration  
 8                   of the applicant competitively ranks nationally  
 9                   according to measures described in paragraph  
 10                  (5)(B)(ii).

11           (7) CERTAIN COMMUNITIES PREVIOUSLY REC-  
 12           OGNIZED.—Each consortium that was designated as  
 13           a manufacturing community by the Secretary in car-  
 14           rying out the Investing in Manufacturing Commu-  
 15           nities Partnership initiative of the Department of  
 16           Commerce before the date of the enactment of this  
 17           Act shall be deemed a manufacturing community  
 18           designated under this subsection if such consortium  
 19           is still designated as a manufacturing community by  
 20           the Secretary as part of such initiative.

21           (c) SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATED MANUFACTURING  
 22           COMMUNITIES.—

23                   (1) PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.—

24                           (A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in  
 25                           subparagraph (D), if a member of a consortium

1 designated as a manufacturing community  
2 under subsection (b) seeks financial or technical  
3 assistance under a participating program of a  
4 participating agency, the head of such agency  
5 may give preferential consideration to such  
6 member with respect to the awarding of such fi-  
7 nancial or technical assistance if—

8 (i) such head considers the award of  
9 the financial or technical assistance con-  
10 sistent with the economic development  
11 strategy of the consortium; and

12 (ii) the member otherwise meets all  
13 applicable requirements for the financial or  
14 technical assistance.

15 ~~(B) PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.—~~The Sec-  
16 retary shall invite other Federal agencies to be-  
17 come participating agencies of the Manufac-  
18 turing Community Support Program.

19 ~~(C) PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS.—~~The head  
20 of each participating agency shall identify all  
21 programs administered by such participating  
22 agency that are applicable to the Manufacturing  
23 Community Support Program.

1           (D) MULTIPLE MEMBERS OF THE SAME  
2 CONSORTIUM SEEKING THE SAME FINANCIAL  
3 OR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

4           (i) IN GENERAL.—If a participating  
5 agency receives applications for the same  
6 financial or technical assistance from more  
7 than one member of the same consortium  
8 designated as a manufacturing community  
9 under subsection (b), the head of such  
10 agency may determine how preference will  
11 be given under subparagraph (A), includ-  
12 ing by requiring the consortium to select  
13 which of the members should be given  
14 preference.

15           (ii) COORDINATION.—If the head of a  
16 participating agency determines that more  
17 than one member of a consortium should  
18 be given preference for financial or tech-  
19 nical assistance under subparagraph (A),  
20 he or she may require such members to  
21 demonstrate coordination with each other  
22 in developing their applications for the fi-  
23 nancial or technical assistance.

24           (E) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days  
25 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the

1 head of each participating agency shall submit  
2 a report to the Secretary that specifies how the  
3 head will give preferential consideration under  
4 subparagraph (A).

5 (2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary  
6 may make a Federal point of contact available to  
7 each consortium designated as a manufacturing  
8 community under subsection (b) to help the mem-  
9 bers of the consortium access Federal funds and  
10 technical assistance.

11 (3) FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

12 (A) IN GENERAL.—Under the Manufac-  
13 turing Community Support Program, the head  
14 of a participating agency may award financial  
15 or technical assistance to a member of a consor-  
16 tium designated as a manufacturing community  
17 under subsection (b) as he or she considers ap-  
18 propriate for purposes of such program and  
19 consistent with the economic development strat-  
20 egy of the consortium.

21 (B) USE OF FUNDS.—

22 (i) IN GENERAL.—A recipient of fi-  
23 nancial or technical assistance under sub-  
24 paragraph (A) may use such financial or  
25 technical assistance to support an invest-

1           ment in an ecosystem that will improve the  
2           competitiveness of United States manufac-  
3           turing.

4           (ii) INVESTMENTS SUPPORTED.—In-  
5           vestments supported under this subpara-  
6           graph may include—

7                   (I) infrastructure;

8                   (II) access to capital;

9                   (III) promotion of exports and  
10                  foreign direct investment;

11                  (IV) equipment or facility up-  
12                  grades;

13                  (V) workforce training or retrain-  
14                  ing;

15                  (VI) energy or process efficiency;

16                  (VII) business incubators;

17                  (VIII) site preparation;

18                  (IX) advanced research;

19                  (X) supply chain development;

20                  and

21                  (XI) small business assistance.

22           (4) COORDINATION.—

23                   (A) COORDINATION BY SECRETARY OF  
24                  COMMERCE.—The Secretary shall coordinate

1 with the heads of the participating agencies to  
 2 identify programs under paragraph (1)(C).

3 ~~(B) INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION.—~~The  
 4 heads of the participating agencies shall coordi-  
 5 nate with each other—

6 (i) to leverage complementary activi-  
 7 ties, including from non-Federal sources,  
 8 such as philanthropies; and

9 (ii) to avoid duplication of efforts.

10 ~~(d) RECEIPT OF TRANSFERRED FUNDS.—~~The Sec-  
 11 retary may accept amounts transferred to the Secretary  
 12 from the head of another participating agency to carry out  
 13 this section.

14 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

15 *This Act may be cited as the “Made in America Manu-  
 16 facturing Communities Act of 2017”.*

17 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

18 *In this Act:*

19 (1) *MANUFACTURING COMMUNITY SUPPORT PRO-  
 20 GRAM.—*The term “Manufacturing Community Sup-  
 21 port Program” means the program established under  
 22 section 3(a).

23 (2) *PARTICIPATING AGENCY.—*The term “partici-  
 24 pating agency” means a Federal agency that elects to

1       *participate in the Manufacturing Community Sup-*  
2       *port Program.*

3               (3) *PARTICIPATING PROGRAM.*—*The term “par-*  
4       *ticipating program” means a program identified by*  
5       *a participating agency under section 3(c)(1)(C).*

6               (4) *SECRETARY.*—*The term “Secretary” means*  
7       *the Secretary of Commerce.*

8       **SEC. 3. PROGRAM TO DESIGNATE AND SUPPORT MANUFAC-**  
9               **TURING COMMUNITIES.**

10       (a) *PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.*—*The Secretary shall es-*  
11       *tablish a program to improve the competitiveness of United*  
12       *States manufacturing—*

13               (1) *by designating consortiums as manufac-*  
14       *turing communities under subsection (b); and*

15               (2) *by supporting manufacturing communities,*  
16       *as so designated, under subsection (c).*

17       (b) *DESIGNATION OF MANUFACTURING COMMU-*  
18       *NITIES.*—

19               (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*Except as provided in para-*  
20       *graph (7), for purposes of the Manufacturing Commu-*  
21       *nity Support Program, the Secretary shall designate*  
22       *eligible consortiums as manufacturing communities*  
23       *through a competitive process.*

24               (2) *ELIGIBLE CONSORTIUMS.*—



1           (A) *IN GENERAL.*—*An eligible consortium is*  
2           *a consortium that—*

3                   (i) *represents a region defined by the*  
4                   *consortium in accordance with subpara-*  
5                   *graph (B);*

6                   (ii) *includes at least one—*

7                           (I) *institution of higher edu-*  
8                           *cation;*

9                           (II) *a private sector entity; and*

10                           (III) *a government entity;*

11                   (iii) *may include one or more—*

12                           (I) *private sector partners;*

13                           (II) *institutions of higher edu-*  
14                           *cation;*

15                           (III) *government entities;*

16                           (IV) *economic development and*  
17                           *other community and labor groups;*

18                           (V) *financial institutions; or*

19                           (VI) *utilities;*

20                   (iv) *has, as a lead applicant—*

21                           (I) *a district organization (as de-*  
22                           *fined in section 300.3 of title 13, Code*  
23                           *of Federal Regulations, or successor*  
24                           *regulation);*

1           (II) *an Indian tribe (as defined*  
2           *in section 4 of the Indian Self-Deter-*  
3           *mination and Education Assistance*  
4           *Act (25 U.S.C. 450b)) or a consortium*  
5           *of Indian tribes;*

6           (III) *a State or a political sub-*  
7           *division of a State, including a special*  
8           *purpose unit of a State or local govern-*  
9           *ment engaged in economic or infra-*  
10           *structure development activities, or a*  
11           *consortium of political subdivisions;*

12           (IV) *an institution of higher edu-*  
13           *cation or a consortium of institutions*  
14           *of higher education; or*

15           (V) *a public or private nonprofit*  
16           *organization or association that has an*  
17           *application that is supported by a*  
18           *State, a political subdivision of a*  
19           *State, or a native community.*

20           (B) *REGIONS.*—*Subject to approval by the*  
21           *Secretary, a consortium may define the region*  
22           *that it represents if the region—*

23           (i) *is large enough to contain critical*  
24           *elements of the key technologies or supply*  
25           *chain prioritized by the consortium; and*

1                   (ii) is small enough to enable close col-  
2                   laboration among members of the consor-  
3                   tium.

4                   (3) *DURATION.*—Each designation under para-  
5                   graph (1) shall be for a period of two years.

6                   (4) *RENEWAL.*—

7                   (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Upon receipt of an ap-  
8                   plication submitted under subparagraph (B), the  
9                   Secretary may renew a designation made under  
10                  paragraph (1) for up to two additional two-year  
11                  periods. Any designation as a manufacturing  
12                  community or renewal of such designation that  
13                  is in effect before the date of the enactment of  
14                  this Act shall count toward the limit set forth in  
15                  this subparagraph.

16                  (B) *APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL.*—An eligi-  
17                  ble consortium seeking a renewal under subpara-  
18                  graph (A) shall submit an application to the  
19                  Secretary at such time, in such manner, and  
20                  containing such information as the Secretary  
21                  may require.

22                  (C) *MODIFICATIONS AUTHORIZED.*—The  
23                  Secretary may renew a designation under sub-  
24                  paragraph (A) for an eligible consortium that—

1                   (i) *has changed its composition, either*  
2                   *by adding or removing members; or*

3                   (ii) *as part of its application under*  
4                   *subparagraph (B), submits a revision to the*  
5                   *plan submitted under paragraph (5)(B)(iv)*  
6                   *or the strategy submitted under paragraph*  
7                   *(5)(B)(v).*

8                   (D) *EVALUATION FOR RENEWAL.—In deter-*  
9                   *mining whether to renew a designation of an eli-*  
10                  *gible consortium under paragraph (1), the Sec-*  
11                  *retary shall assess the eligible consortium based*  
12                  *upon—*

13                  (i) *the performance of the consortium*  
14                  *against the terms of the consortium’s most*  
15                  *recent designation under paragraph (1) and*  
16                  *any post-designation awards the consortium*  
17                  *may have received;*

18                  (ii) *the progress the consortium has*  
19                  *made with respect to project-specific metrics*  
20                  *the consortium proposed in the consortium’s*  
21                  *application for the most recent designation*  
22                  *under paragraph (1), particularly with re-*  
23                  *spect to those metrics that were designed to*  
24                  *help communities track their own progress;*

1                   (iii) whether any changes to the com-  
2                   position of the eligible consortium or revi-  
3                   sions to the plan or strategy described in  
4                   subparagraph (C)(ii) would improve the  
5                   competitiveness of United States manufac-  
6                   turing; and

7                   (iv) such other criteria as the Secretary  
8                   considers appropriate.

9                   (5) *APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION.*—

10                  (A) *IN GENERAL.*—An eligible consortium  
11                  seeking a designation under paragraph (1) shall  
12                  submit an application to the Secretary at such  
13                  time and in such manner as the Secretary may  
14                  require.

15                  (B) *CONTENTS.*—Each application sub-  
16                  mitted to the Secretary under subparagraph (A)  
17                  shall include—

18                         (i) a description of the regional bound-  
19                         aries of the consortium;

20                         (ii) a description of the manufacturing  
21                         concentration of the consortium, including  
22                         an assessment of how the manufacturing  
23                         concentration of the consortium competi-  
24                         tively ranks nationally according to meas-  
25                         ures relating to employment, sales, location

1                    *quotients for an industry’s level of con-*  
2                    *centration, or such other measures as the*  
3                    *Secretary considers appropriate;*

4                    *(iii) an integrated assessment of the*  
5                    *local industrial ecosystem of the region of*  
6                    *the consortium, which may include assess-*  
7                    *ment of workforce and training, such as*  
8                    *that involving women and underrepresented*  
9                    *minorities, supplier network, research and*  
10                   *innovation, infrastructure or site develop-*  
11                   *ment, trade and international investment,*  
12                   *operational improvements, and capital ac-*  
13                   *cess components needed for manufacturing*  
14                   *activities in such region;*

15                   *(iv) an evidence-based plan for devel-*  
16                   *oping components of such ecosystem (se-*  
17                   *lected by the consortium)—*

18                   *(I) by making specific investments*  
19                   *to address gaps in such ecosystem; and*

20                   *(II) by making the manufacturing*  
21                   *of the region of the consortium unique-*  
22                   *ly competitive;*

23                   *(v) a description of the investments the*  
24                   *consortium proposes and the implementa-*

1                    *tion strategy the consortium intends to use*  
2                    *to address gaps in such ecosystem;*

3                    *(vi) a description of the outcome-based*  
4                    *metrics, benchmarks, and milestones that*  
5                    *the consortium will track and the evalua-*  
6                    *tion methods the consortium will use while*  
7                    *designated as a manufacturing community*  
8                    *to gauge performance of the strategy of the*  
9                    *consortium to improve the manufacturing*  
10                   *in the region of the consortium; and*

11                   *(vii) such other matters as the Sec-*  
12                   *retary considers appropriate.*

13                   *(6) EVALUATION OF APPLICATIONS.—The Sec-*  
14                   *retary shall evaluate each application received under*  
15                   *paragraph (5) to determine—*

16                   *(A) whether the applicant demonstrates a*  
17                   *significant level of regional cooperation in their*  
18                   *proposal; and*

19                   *(B) how the manufacturing concentration of*  
20                   *the applicant competitively ranks nationally ac-*  
21                   *cording to measures described in paragraph*  
22                   *(5)(B)(ii).*

23                   *(7) CERTAIN COMMUNITIES PREVIOUSLY RECOG-*  
24                   *NIZED.—Each consortium that was designated as a*  
25                   *manufacturing community by the Secretary in car-*

1     *rying out the Investing in Manufacturing Commu-*  
 2     *nities Partnership initiative of the Department of*  
 3     *Commerce before the date of the enactment of this Act*  
 4     *shall be deemed a manufacturing community des-*  
 5     *ignated under this subsection if such consortium is*  
 6     *still designated as a manufacturing community by*  
 7     *the Secretary as part of such initiative.*

8     *(c) SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATED MANUFACTURING COM-*  
 9     *MUNITIES.—*

10         *(1) PREFERENTIAL CONSIDERATION.—*

11             *(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in*  
 12             *subparagraph (D), if a member of a consortium*  
 13             *designated as a manufacturing community*  
 14             *under subsection (b) seeks financial or technical*  
 15             *assistance under a participating program of a*  
 16             *participating agency, the head of such agency*  
 17             *may give preferential consideration to such*  
 18             *member with respect to the awarding of such fi-*  
 19             *nancial or technical assistance if—*

20                 *(i) such head considers the award of*  
 21                 *the financial or technical assistance con-*  
 22                 *sistent with the economic development strat-*  
 23                 *egy of the consortium; and*



1                   (ii) *the member otherwise meets all ap-*  
2                   *plicable requirements for the financial or*  
3                   *technical assistance.*

4                   (B) *PARTICIPATING AGENCIES.—The Sec-*  
5                   *retary shall invite other Federal agencies to be-*  
6                   *come participating agencies of the Manufac-*  
7                   *turing Community Support Program.*

8                   (C) *PARTICIPATING PROGRAMS.—The head*  
9                   *of each participating agency shall identify all*  
10                  *programs administered by such participating*  
11                  *agency that are applicable to the Manufacturing*  
12                  *Community Support Program.*

13                  (D) *MULTIPLE MEMBERS OF THE SAME*  
14                  *CONSORTIUM SEEKING THE SAME FINANCIAL OR*  
15                  *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—*

16                  (i) *IN GENERAL.—If a participating*  
17                  *agency receives applications for the same fi-*  
18                  *nancial or technical assistance from more*  
19                  *than one member of the same consortium*  
20                  *designated as a manufacturing community*  
21                  *under subsection (b), the head of such agen-*  
22                  *cy may determine how preference will be*  
23                  *given under subparagraph (A), including by*  
24                  *requiring the consortium to select which of*  
25                  *the members should be given preference.*

1                   (ii) *COORDINATION.*—If the head of a  
2                   participating agency determines that more  
3                   than one member of a consortium should be  
4                   given preference for financial or technical  
5                   assistance under subparagraph (A), he or  
6                   she may require such members to dem-  
7                   onstrate coordination with each other in de-  
8                   veloping their applications for the financial  
9                   or technical assistance.

10                  (E) *REPORT.*—Not later than 90 days after  
11                  the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of  
12                  each participating agency shall submit a report  
13                  to the Secretary that specifies how the head will  
14                  give preferential consideration under subpara-  
15                  graph (A).

16                  (2) *TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—The Secretary  
17                  may make a Federal point of contact available to  
18                  each consortium designated as a manufacturing com-  
19                  munity under subsection (b) to help the members of  
20                  the consortium access Federal funds and technical as-  
21                  sistance.

22                  (3) *FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.*—

23                         (A) *IN GENERAL.*—Under the Manufac-  
24                         turing Community Support Program, the head  
25                         of a participating agency may award financial

1            *or technical assistance to a member of a consor-*  
2            *tium designated as a manufacturing community*  
3            *under subsection (b) as he or she considers ap-*  
4            *propriate for purposes of such program and con-*  
5            *sistent with the economic development strategy of*  
6            *the consortium.*

7            *(B) USE OF FUNDS.—*

8                    *(i) IN GENERAL.—A recipient of finan-*  
9                    *cial or technical assistance under subpara-*  
10                   *graph (A) may use such financial or tech-*  
11                   *nical assistance to support an investment in*  
12                   *an ecosystem that will improve the competi-*  
13                   *tiveness of United States manufacturing.*

14                   *(ii) INVESTMENTS SUPPORTED.—In-*  
15                   *vestments supported under this subpara-*  
16                   *graph may include—*

17                            *(I) infrastructure;*

18                            *(II) access to capital;*

19                            *(III) promotion of exports and*  
20                   *foreign direct investment;*

21                            *(IV) equipment or facility up-*  
22                   *grades;*

23                            *(V) workforce training, retrain-*  
24                   *ing, or recruitment and retention, in-*

1                    *cluding that of women and underrep-*  
 2                    *resented minorities;*

3                    *(VI) energy or process efficiency;*

4                    *(VII) business incubators;*

5                    *(VIII) site preparation;*

6                    *(IX) advanced research;*

7                    *(X) supply chain development;*

8                    *and*

9                    *(XI) small business assistance.*

10                  *(4) COORDINATION.—*

11                    *(A) COORDINATION BY SECRETARY OF COM-*  
 12                    *MERCE.—The Secretary shall coordinate with the*  
 13                    *heads of the participating agencies to identify*  
 14                    *programs under paragraph (1)(C).*

15                    *(B) INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION.—The*  
 16                    *heads of the participating agencies shall coordi-*  
 17                    *nate with each other—*

18                    *(i) to leverage complementary activi-*  
 19                    *ties, including from non-Federal sources,*  
 20                    *such as philanthropies; and*

21                    *(ii) to avoid duplication of efforts.*

22                    *(d) RECEIPT OF TRANSFERRED FUNDS.—The Sec-*  
 23                    *retary may accept amounts transferred to the Secretary*  
 24                    *from the head of another participating agency to carry out*  
 25                    *this section.*



Calendar No. 298

115<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

**S. 701**

[Report No. 115-204]

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**A BILL**

To improve the competitiveness of United States manufacturing by designating and supporting manufacturing communities.

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FEBRUARY 5, 2018

Reported with an amendment