

111TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6060

To support innovation and research in the United States textile and fiber products industry.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 30, 2010

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology

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## A BILL

To support innovation and research in the United States textile and fiber products industry.

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 “American Textile  
5 Technology Innovation and Research for Exportation (AT-  
6 TIRE) Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 The Congress finds that—

1           (1) the United States textile industry continues  
2           to thrive and evolve despite changing economic and  
3           labor conditions;

4           (2) the United States textile industry employs  
5           over 500,000 workers nationwide and contributes  
6           nearly \$60,000,000,000 to the gross domestic prod-  
7           uct annually;

8           (3) the United States textile industry is a pri-  
9           mary supplier of domestic jobs to women and mi-  
10          norities, with many of these jobs located in economi-  
11          cally depressed rural and urban areas;

12          (4) research and innovation are essential to the  
13          United States textile industry's ability to maintain  
14          its competitive advantage and expand its export on  
15          an international scale; and

16          (5) by working closely with the textile industry  
17          to improve existing technologies and to identify new  
18          market opportunities, university-based textile re-  
19          search programs and not-for-profit textile research  
20          centers play a critical role in promoting innovation  
21          and growth in the textile industry and in the United  
22          States economy as a whole.

1 **SEC. 3. GRANT PROGRAM TO SUPPORT TEXTILE RESEARCH**  
2 **AND INNOVATION THROUGH UNIVERSITY**  
3 **AND INDUSTRY-BASED RESEARCH.**

4 (a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary of Com-  
5 merce shall establish a competitive grant program (in this  
6 section referred to as the “grant program”) to fund textile  
7 research and innovation and to promote increased textile  
8 exports.

9 (b) ADMINISTRATION OF GRANT PROGRAM.—

10 (1) ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.—The eligible recipi-  
11 ents of grants under the grant program shall be lim-  
12 ited to institutions of higher education and not-for-  
13 profit research institutions, including not-for-profit  
14 industry associations whose core mission is to sup-  
15 port textile research and innovation.

16 (2) PREFERENCE.—Preference in awarding  
17 such grants shall be given to collaborative research  
18 organizations that emphasize peer-reviewed research  
19 by leading academic and industry experts.

20 (3) APPLICATION PROCEDURE.—Applications  
21 for such a grant shall be submitted at such time and  
22 in such manner as determined by the Secretary of  
23 Commerce.

24 (4) REVIEW PROCEDURE.—All such applica-  
25 tions shall be subject to a rigorous and competitive  
26 peer review procedure.

1 (c) ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS.—The funds author-  
2 ized to be appropriated for the grant program shall be  
3 used for research and development activities that achieve  
4 at least one of the following goals:

5 (1) To build and sustain innovation, competi-  
6 tiveness, and best practices in the United States tex-  
7 tile industry.

8 (2) To contribute to transforming the United  
9 States textile and apparel industry into a highly  
10 flexible supply chain, capable of responding to rap-  
11 idly changing market demands including shifts to  
12 technologically advanced textile production.

13 (3) To discover, design, and develop new mate-  
14 rials, and innovative and improved manufacturing  
15 and integrated systems, essential to the success of a  
16 modern United States textile industry.

17 (4) To train personnel, establish industrial  
18 partnerships, and create transfer mechanisms to en-  
19 sure the utilization of technologies developed.

20 (5) To strengthen the Nation's textile research  
21 and educational efforts by uniting diverse experts  
22 and resources in unique collaborative projects.

23 (6) To facilitate the creation of domestic jobs in  
24 the textile industry.

25 (d) RESTRICTION ON FUNDS.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), no  
2           more than 75 percent of total funding made avail-  
3           able under the grant program in a fiscal year may  
4           be disbursed to institutions of higher education.

5           (2) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—If the Secretary of  
6           Commerce determines that the limitation of para-  
7           graph (1) would result in the failure to disburse all  
8           appropriated funds for a fiscal year, the Secretary  
9           may waive such limitation for such fiscal year.

10 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11           There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-  
12           retary of Commerce \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years  
13           2011 through 2015 to carry out section 3.

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