

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 433

To require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 5, 2025

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mrs. BLACKBURN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce to establish the National Manufacturing Advisory Council within the Department of Commerce, and for other purposes.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “National Manufac-
5 turing Advisory Council Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL MANUFACTURING ADVISORY COUNCIL.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The term “Advisory
2 Council” means the National Manufacturing Advi-
3 sory Council established under subsection (b).

4 (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-
5 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-
6 gress” means—

7 (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
8 and Transportation of the Senate;

9 (B) the Committee on Health, Education,
10 Labor, and Pensions of the Senate;

11 (C) the Committee on Energy and Natural
12 Resources of the Senate;

13 (D) the Committee on Armed Services of
14 the Senate;

15 (E) the Committee on Appropriations of
16 the Senate;

17 (F) the Committee on Small Business and
18 Entrepreneurship of the Senate;

19 (G) the Committee on Energy and Com-
20 merce of the House of Representatives;

21 (H) the Committee on Education and
22 Labor of the House of Representatives;

23 (I) the Committee on Science, Space, and
24 Technology of the House of Representatives;

1 (J) the Committee on Armed Services of
 2 the House of Representatives;

3 (K) the Committee on Appropriations of
 4 the House of Representatives; and

5 (L) the Committee on Small Business of
 6 the House of Representatives.

7 (3) ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED AREA.—The
 8 term “economically distressed area” means an area
 9 that meets 1 or more of the requirements described
 10 in section 301(a) of the Public Works and Economic
 11 Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3161(a)).

12 (4) RURAL AREA.—The term “rural area”
 13 means an area located outside a metropolitan statis-
 14 tical area, as designated by the Office of Manage-
 15 ment and Budget.

16 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
 17 the Secretary of Commerce.

18 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
 19 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in con-
 20 sultation with the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of De-
 21 fense, the Secretary of Energy, the United States Trade
 22 Representative, and the Secretary of Education, shall es-
 23 tablish within the Department of Commerce the National
 24 Manufacturing Advisory Council.

1 (c) MISSION.—The mission of the Advisory Council
2 shall be to—

3 (1) provide a forum for—

4 (A) regular communication between the
5 Federal Government and the manufacturing
6 sector, including manufacturing workers, in the
7 United States; and

8 (B) discussing and proposing solutions to
9 problems relating to the manufacturing sector
10 in the United States, including the manufac-
11 turing workforce, supply chain interruptions,
12 and regulatory and other logistical challenges;

13 (2) advise the Secretary regarding policies and
14 programs of the Federal Government that affect
15 manufacturing, including the manufacturing work-
16 force, in the United States; and

17 (3) annually produce a national strategic plan,
18 as described in subsection (g), that provides rec-
19 ommendations to the Secretary and the appropriate
20 committees of Congress regarding how to help the
21 United States remain the preeminent destination
22 throughout the world for investment in manufac-
23 turing, which shall be based on the execution of the
24 duties of the Advisory Council.

1 (d) DUTIES.—The duties of the Advisory Council
2 shall include the following:

3 (1) Meeting not less frequently than once every
4 180 days, in a manner to be determined by the Sec-
5 retary and that is in compliance with chapter 10 of
6 title 5, United States Code, in order to provide inde-
7 pendent advice and recommendations to the Sec-
8 retary regarding issues involving manufacturing in
9 the United States.

10 (2) Identifying and assessing the impact that
11 technological developments, critical production ca-
12 pacity, skill availability, investment patterns, and
13 emerging defense needs have on the manufacturing
14 competitiveness of the United States and providing
15 advice and recommendations to the Secretary re-
16 garding that impact.

17 (3) Soliciting input from the public and private
18 sectors and academia relating to emerging trends in
19 manufacturing, and the responsiveness of Federal
20 programming with respect to manufacturing, and
21 providing advice and recommendations to the Sec-
22 retary for areas of increased Federal attention with
23 respect to manufacturing.

24 (4) Identifying, and providing advice and rec-
25 ommendations to the Secretary regarding, global

1 and domestic manufacturing trends, including on
2 matters such as supply chain interruptions, logistical
3 challenges, and demographic and technological
4 changes affecting the manufacturing base in the
5 United States.

6 (5) Providing advice and recommendations to
7 the Secretary on matters relating to investment in,
8 and support of, the manufacturing workforce in the
9 United States, including on matters such as—

10 (A) worker participation in planning for
11 the deployment of new technologies across the
12 manufacturing sector in the United States and
13 within workplaces in that sector;

14 (B) training and education priorities for
15 the Federal Government and employers to as-
16 sist workers in adapting the skills and experi-
17 ences of those workers to fit the demands of the
18 manufacturing sector in the United States in
19 the 21st century;

20 (C) how the development of new tech-
21 nologies and processes have impacted, and will
22 impact, the manufacturing workforce of the
23 United States and the economy of the United
24 States, which shall be based on input from
25 manufacturing workers;

(D) policies and procedures that expand access to jobs, career advancement opportunities, and management opportunities in the manufacturing sector in the United States for low-income individuals in the United States, or new entrants into that sector, in both urban and rural areas; and

(E) how to improve access to demand-driven manufacturing-related education, training, and re-training for workers, including at community and technical colleges, through other institutions of higher education and through apprenticeships and work-based learning opportunities.

(6) Providing recommendations to the Secretary on ways to—

(A) provide—

(i) manufacturing-related worker education, training, and development; and

(ii) entrepreneurship training relating to manufacturing;

(B) connect individuals and businesses with services described in subparagraph (A) that are offered in the communities of those individuals or businesses;

1 (C) coordinate services relating to manu-
2 facturing employee engagement, including em-
3 ployee ownership and workforce training;

4 (D) connect manufacturers with commu-
5 nity and technical colleges, other institutions of
6 higher education, State or local workforce devel-
7 opment boards established under section 101 or
8 107 of the Workforce Innovation and Oppor-
9 tunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3111, 3122), labor orga-
10 nizations, and nonprofit job training providers
11 to develop and support training and job place-
12 ment services, and apprenticeship and online
13 learning platforms, for new and incumbent
14 manufacturing workers;

15 (E) integrate new technologies and proc-
16 esses into the manufacturing sector in the
17 United States and address the workforce im-
18 pacts of those new technologies and processes;
19 and

20 (F) develop best practices for manufactur-
21 ers to incorporate, or transition to, employee
22 ownership structures.

23 (7) With respect to the matters described in
24 paragraphs (1) through (6), soliciting input from—

25 (A) economically distressed areas;

1 (B) geographically diverse regions of the
2 United States, including both urban and rural
3 areas; and

4 (C) areas of the United States that have
5 suffered mass layoffs in the manufacturing sec-
6 tor.

7 (8) Identifying Federal, State, or other regula-
8 tions that may have caused, or will cause, unneces-
9 sary supply chain disruptions, impaired business op-
10 erations, increased prices, or other costly burdens
11 for consumers and the manufacturing sector in the
12 United States and recommending to the Secretary
13 steps to—

14 (A) mitigate those consequences; and

15 (B) foster an environment in the United
16 States that is favorable to manufacturers, man-
17 ufacturing workers, and consumers.

18 (9) Completing other specific tasks requested by
19 the Secretary.

20 (e) MEMBERSHIP.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Council
22 shall—

23 (A) consist of not more than 30 individuals
24 appointed by the Secretary with a balance of
25 backgrounds, experiences, and viewpoints; and

1 (B) include individuals with manufacturing
2 experience who represent—

3 (i) private industry, including small
4 and medium-sized manufacturers and any
5 relevant standards development organiza-
6 tions or relevant trade associations;

7 (ii) academia; and

8 (iii) labor.

9 (2) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—The Secretary
10 shall, to the maximum extent practicable, accept rec-
11 ommendations from the public regarding the ap-
12 pointment of individuals under paragraph (1).

13 (3) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT; VACANCIES.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the
15 Advisory Council shall be appointed by the Sec-
16 retary for a term of 3 years.

17 (B) RENEWAL.—The Secretary may renew
18 an appointment made under subparagraph (A)
19 for not more than 2 additional terms.

20 (C) STAGGER TERMS.—The Secretary may
21 stagger the terms of the members of the Advi-
22 sory Council to ensure that the terms of those
23 members expire during different years.

24 (D) VACANCIES.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause
 2 (ii), a member appointed to fill a vacancy
 3 on the Advisory Council occurring before
 4 the expiration of the term for which the
 5 predecessor of the newly appointed member
 6 was appointed shall be appointed only for
 7 the remainder of that term of the prede-
 8 cessor.

9 (ii) FURTHER SERVICE.—A member
 10 of the Advisory Council who is appointed
 11 for the remainder of a term of a prede-
 12 cessor under clause (i) may serve after the
 13 expiration of that term of the predecessor
 14 and until the date on which the Secretary
 15 has appointed a successor.

16 (f) TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—All functions of the United
 18 States Manufacturing Council of the International
 19 Trade Administration of the Department of Com-
 20 merce, as in existence on the day before the date of
 21 enactment of this Act, shall be transferred to the
 22 Advisory Council.

23 (2) DEEMING OF NAME.—Any reference in any
 24 law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of
 25 the United States to the United States Manufac-

1 turing Council of the International Trade Adminis-
2 tration of the Department of Commerce shall be
3 deemed a reference to the Advisory Council.

4 (3) EXISTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—Any
5 Federal advisory committee of the Department of
6 Commerce that is operating on the day before the
7 date of enactment of this Act under a charter filed
8 in accordance with section 1008(c) of title 5, United
9 States Code, for the purpose of addressing the pur-
10 poses and duties described in this section shall sat-
11 isfy the requirement under subsection (b) to estab-
12 lish the Advisory Council if, not later than 180 days
13 after that date of enactment, the Federal advisory
14 committee is modified, as necessary, to comply with
15 the requirements of this section.

16 (g) NATIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN.—Not later than
17 180 days after the date on which the Advisory Council
18 holds the initial meeting of the Advisory Council, and an-
19 nually thereafter, the Advisory Council shall submit to the
20 Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress—

21 (1) a national strategic plan for manufacturing
22 in the United States that is based on the execution
23 of the duties of the Advisory Council under sub-
24 section (d); and

1 (2) a detailed statement of the activities that
2 the Advisory Council conducted to carry out the du-
3 ties of the Advisory Council under subsection (d).

4 (h) DEPARTMENTAL SUPPORT.—In accordance with
5 prevailing laws and regulations, the Secretary, as the Sec-
6 retary considers appropriate, shall furnish to the Advisory
7 Council relevant information that—

8 (1) is in the possession of the Department of
9 Commerce; and

10 (2) relates to the mission of the Advisory Coun-
11 cil.

12 (i) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.—No addi-
13 tional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry
14 out this section.

15 (j) SUNSET.—The Advisory Council shall terminate
16 on September 30 of the fifth year after the year in which
17 the Advisory Council holds the first meeting of the Advi-
18 sory Council.

○