

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4393

To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to reduce the matching requirement for participants in the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 16, 2009

Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. EHLERS, Mr. DINGELL, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. COSTELLO, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. STUPAK, Ms. FUDGE, Ms. MARKEY of Colorado, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. HARE, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. SCHAUER, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. CAMP, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. DENT, Mr. MILLER of North Carolina, Mr. FORTENBERRY, Mrs. MILLER of Michigan, Mr. GINGREY of Georgia, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. REYES, Mr. WELCH, Mr. FILNER, Mr. TONKO, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. LATOURETTE, Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PLATTS, and Mr. MINNICK) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Commerce to reduce the matching requirement for participants in the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program.

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

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Manufacturing Extension Partnership serv-
2 ices are available in all 50 States and at 392 loca-
3 tions.

4 (2) The Manufacturing Extension Partnership
5 delivers critical services to small and mid-sized manu-
6 facturers, providing access to public and private re-
7 sources that enhance growth, improve productivity,
8 and expand capacity.

9 (3) The Manufacturing Extension Partnership
10 helps manufacturers position themselves as strong
11 long-term competitors in domestic and international
12 markets.

13 (4) Of the 7 million jobs lost in the recession
14 as of February 2009, over 2 million were from the
15 manufacturing sector, and the Manufacturing Ex-
16 tension Partnership reported creating or retaining
17 over 57,000 manufacturing jobs in the most recent
18 surveyed year.

19 (5) The Manufacturing Extension Partnership
20 has delivered \$1.44 billion in cost savings annually
21 and \$10.5 billion in increased or retained sales in a
22 single year.

23 (6) Every dollar contributed by the Federal
24 Government to the Manufacturing Extension Part-

1 nership is matched 2-to-1 by State and local govern-
2 ments and participating manufacturers.

3 (7) The recession has strained many State
4 budgets, and 23 State Manufacturing Extension
5 Partnership Centers reported a decrease or elimi-
6 nation of State funding in 2009.

7 (8) When a State decreases or eliminates fund-
8 ing for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership,
9 the cost-share burden is shifted to small manufac-
10 turers who are unlikely to be able to afford increased
11 contributions during an economic downturn, and the
12 availability of Manufacturing Extension Partnership
13 services is jeopardized.

14 (9) A reduction in the matching requirement
15 for participants in the Manufacturing Extension
16 Partnership will greatly alleviate the burden on
17 State budgets and small manufacturers and preserve
18 the Manufacturing Extension Partnership's ability
19 to provide critical services to small manufacturers
20 and create much-needed jobs in the manufacturing
21 sector.

22 **SEC. 2. HOLLINGS MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNER-**
23 **SHIP PROGRAM.**

24 Section 25(c) of the National Institute of Standards
25 and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278k(c)) is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, unless oth-
2 erwise determined under paragraph (3)(C)” before
3 the period at the end;

4 (2) in paragraph (3)—

5 (A) in subparagraph (B)—

6 (i) by striking “not less than 50 per-
7 cent of the costs incurred for the first 3
8 years and an increasing share for each of
9 the last 3 years” and inserting “the appli-
10 cant’s share of the costs incurred (in this
11 subsection referred to as ‘cost share’)”;
12 and

13 (ii) by striking “For purposes of the
14 preceding sentence, the” and inserting
15 “The”;

16 (B) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)
17 and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respec-
18 tively;

19 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
20 the following new subparagraph:

21 “(C) The Secretary shall by rule establish
22 appropriate criteria to be considered in deter-
23 mining a Center’s cost share. A Center’s cost
24 share shall in no case exceed 50 percent of the
25 costs incurred by such Center. The Secretary

1 shall review each Center's cost share annually
2 and at such other times as the Secretary con-
3 siderers appropriate. An adjustment to a Center's
4 cost share in a year shall not affect the amount
5 of Federal funds such Center receives in such
6 year.”; and

7 (D) in subparagraph (D), as redesignated
8 by subparagraph (B)—

9 (i) by striking “50 percent” and in-
10 serting “cost share”; and

11 (ii) by striking “Center's contribu-
12 tion” and inserting “Center's cost share”;
13 and

14 (3) in paragraph (5)—

15 (A) in the 6th sentence, by striking “at de-
16 clining levels”; and

17 (B) in the last sentence—

18 (i) by striking “Funding” and insert-
19 ing “Unless otherwise determined under
20 paragraph (3)(C), funding”; and

21 (ii) by striking “one third” and insert-
22 ing “50 percent”.

○