

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 338

To promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 2017

Mr. RUSH (for himself and Mr. HUDSON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, 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

A BILL

To promote a 21st century energy and manufacturing workforce.

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. ENERGY AND MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE**
4 **DEVELOPMENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy (in this
6 Act referred to as the “Secretary”) shall prioritize edu-
7 cation and training for energy and manufacturing-related
8 jobs in order to increase the number of skilled workers
9 trained to work in energy and manufacturing-related fields

1 when considering awards for existing grant programs, in-
2 cluding by—

3 (1) encouraging State education agencies and
4 local educational agencies to equip students with the
5 skills, mentorships, training, and technical expertise
6 necessary to fill the employment opportunities vital
7 to managing and operating the Nation’s energy and
8 manufacturing industries, in collaboration with rep-
9 resentatives from the energy and manufacturing in-
10 dustries (including the oil, gas, coal, nuclear, utility,
11 pipeline, renewable, petrochemical, manufacturing,
12 and electrical construction sectors) to identify the
13 areas of highest need in each sector and the skills
14 necessary for a high-quality workforce in the fol-
15 lowing sectors of energy and manufacturing:

16 (A) Energy efficiency industry, including
17 work in energy efficiency, conservation, weath-
18 erization, or retrofitting, or as inspectors or
19 auditors.

20 (B) Pipeline industry, including work in
21 pipeline construction and maintenance or work
22 as engineers or technical advisors.

23 (C) Utility industry, including work in the
24 generation, transmission, and distribution of
25 electricity and natural gas, such as utility tech-

1 nicians, operators, lineworkers, engineers, sci-
2 entists, and information technology specialists.

3 (D) Nuclear industry, including work as
4 scientists, engineers, technicians, mathemati-
5 cians, or security personnel.

6 (E) Oil and gas industry, including work
7 as scientists, engineers, technicians, mathemati-
8 cians, petrochemical engineers, or geologists.

9 (F) Renewable industry, including work in
10 the development, manufacturing, and produc-
11 tion of renewable energy sources (such as solar,
12 hydropower, wind, or geothermal energy).

13 (G) Coal industry, including work as coal
14 miners, engineers, developers and manufactur-
15 ers of state-of-the-art coal facilities, technology
16 vendors, coal transportation workers and opera-
17 tors, or mining equipment vendors.

18 (H) Manufacturing industry, including
19 work as operations technicians, operations and
20 design in additive manufacturing, 3-D printing,
21 advanced composites, and advanced aluminum
22 and other metal alloys, industrial energy effi-
23 ciency management systems, including power
24 electronics, and other innovative technologies.

1 (I) Chemical manufacturing industry, in-
2 cluding work in construction (such as welders,
3 pipefitters, and tool and die makers) or as in-
4 strument and electrical technicians, machinists,
5 chemical process operators, chemical engineers,
6 quality and safety professionals, and reliability
7 engineers; and

8 (2) strengthening and more fully engaging De-
9 partment of Energy programs and labs in carrying
10 out the Department's workforce development initia-
11 tives including the Minorities in Energy Initiative.

12 (b) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this section shall be
13 construed to authorize the Secretary or any other officer
14 or employee of the Federal Government to incentivize, re-
15 quire, or coerce a State, school district, or school to adopt
16 curricula aligned to the skills described in subsection (a).

17 (c) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall prioritize the
18 education and training of underrepresented groups in en-
19 ergy and manufacturing-related jobs.

20 (d) CLEARINGHOUSE.—In carrying out this section,
21 the Secretary shall establish a clearinghouse to—

22 (1) maintain and update information and re-
23 sources on training and workforce development pro-
24 grams for energy and manufacturing-related jobs,
25 including job training and workforce development

1 programs available to assist displaced and unem-
2 ployed energy and manufacturing workers transi-
3 tioning to new employment; and

4 (2) provide technical assistance for States, local
5 educational agencies, schools, community colleges,
6 universities (including minority-serving institutions),
7 workforce development programs, labor-management
8 organizations, and industry organizations that would
9 like to develop and implement energy and manufac-
10 turing-related training programs.

11 (e) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out this section,
12 the Secretary—

13 (1) shall collaborate with States, local edu-
14 cational agencies, schools, community colleges, uni-
15 versities (including minority-serving institutions),
16 workforce-training organizations, national labora-
17 tories, State energy offices, workforce investment
18 boards, and the energy and manufacturing indus-
19 tries;

20 (2) shall encourage and foster collaboration,
21 mentorships, and partnerships among organizations
22 (including industry, States, local educational agen-
23 cies, schools, community colleges, workforce-devel-
24 opment organizations, and colleges and universities)
25 that currently provide effective job training pro-

1 grams in the energy and manufacturing fields and
2 entities (including States, local educational agencies,
3 schools, community colleges, workforce development
4 programs, and colleges and universities) that seek to
5 establish these types of programs in order to share
6 best practices; and

7 (3) shall collaborate with the Bureau of Labor
8 Statistics, the Department of Commerce, the Bureau
9 of the Census, States, and the energy and manufac-
10 turing industries to develop a comprehensive and de-
11 tailed understanding of the energy and manufac-
12 turing workforce needs and opportunities by State
13 and by region.

14 (f) OUTREACH TO MINORITY-SERVING INSTITU-
15 TIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall—

16 (1) give special consideration to increasing out-
17 reach to minority-serving institutions and Histori-
18 cally Black Colleges and Universities;

19 (2) make existing resources available through
20 program cross-cutting to minority-serving institu-
21 tions with the objective of increasing the number of
22 skilled minorities and women trained to go into the
23 energy and manufacturing sectors;

24 (3) encourage industry to improve the opportu-
25 nities for students of minority-serving institutions to

1 participate in industry internships and cooperative
2 work/study programs; and

3 (4) partner with the Department of Energy lab-
4 oratories to increase underrepresented groups' par-
5 ticipation in internships, fellowships, traineeships,
6 and employment at all Department of Energy lab-
7 oratories.

8 (g) OUTREACH TO DISLOCATED ENERGY AND MANU-
9 FACTURING WORKERS.—In carrying out this section, the
10 Secretary shall—

11 (1) give special consideration to increasing out-
12 reach to employers and job trainers preparing dis-
13 located energy and manufacturing workers for in-de-
14 mand sectors or occupations;

15 (2) make existing resources available through
16 program cross-cutting to institutions serving dis-
17 located energy and manufacturing workers with the
18 objective of training individuals to re-enter in-de-
19 mand sectors or occupations;

20 (3) encourage the energy and manufacturing in-
21 dustries to improve opportunities for dislocated en-
22 ergy and manufacturing workers to participate in
23 career pathways; and

24 (4) work closely with the energy and manufac-
25 turing industries to identify energy and manufac-

1 turing operations, such as coal-fired power plants
2 and coal mines, scheduled for closure and to provide
3 early intervention assistance to workers employed at
4 such energy and manufacturing operations by—

5 (A) partnering with State and local work-
6 force development boards;

7 (B) giving special consideration to employ-
8 ers and job trainers preparing such workers for
9 in-demand sectors or occupations;

10 (C) making existing resources available
11 through program cross-cutting to institutions
12 serving such workers with the objective of train-
13 ing them to re-enter in-demand sectors or occu-
14 pations; and

15 (D) encouraging the energy and manufac-
16 turing industries to improve opportunities for
17 such workers to participate in career pathways.

18 (h) ENROLLMENT IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
19 PROGRAMS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary
20 shall work with industry and community-based workforce
21 organizations to help identify candidates, including from
22 underrepresented communities such as minorities, women,
23 and veterans, to enroll in workforce development programs
24 for energy and manufacturing-related jobs.

1 (i) PROHIBITION.—Nothing in this section shall be
2 construed as authorizing the creation of a new workforce
3 development program.

4 (j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

5 (1) CAREER PATHWAYS; DISLOCATED WORKER;
6 IN-DEMAND SECTORS OR OCCUPATIONS; LOCAL
7 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD; STATE WORK-
8 FORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD.—The terms “career
9 pathways”, “dislocated worker”, “in-demand sectors
10 or occupations”, “local workforce development
11 board”, and “State workforce development board”
12 have the meanings given the terms “career path-
13 ways”, “dislocated worker”, “in-demand sectors or
14 occupations”, “local board”, and “State board”, re-
15 spectively, in section 3 of the Workforce Innovation
16 and Opportunity Act (29 U.S.C. 3102).

17 (2) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The
18 term “minority-serving institution” means an insti-
19 tution of higher education with a designation of one
20 of the following:

21 (A) Hispanic-serving institution (as de-
22 fined in 20 U.S.C. 1101a(a)(5)).

23 (B) Tribal College or University (as de-
24 fined in 20 U.S.C. 1059c(b)).

1 (C) Alaska Native-serving institution or a
2 Native Hawaiian-serving institution (as defined
3 in 20 U.S.C. 1059d(b)).

4 (D) Predominantly Black Institution (as
5 defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059e(b)).

6 (E) Native American-serving nontribal in-
7 stitution (as defined in 20 U.S.C. 1059f(b)).

8 (F) Asian American and Native American
9 Pacific Islander-serving institution (as defined
10 in 20 U.S.C. 1059g(b)).

11 **SEC. 2. REPORT.**

12 Five years after the date of enactment of this Act,
13 the Secretary shall publish a comprehensive report to the
14 Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Committee
15 on Education and the Workforce of the House of Rep-
16 resentatives and the Senate Energy and Natural Re-
17 sources Committee on the outlook for energy and manu-
18 facturing sectors nationally. The report shall also include
19 a comprehensive summary of energy and manufacturing
20 job creation as a result of the enactment of this Act. The
21 report shall include performance data regarding the num-
22 ber of program participants served, the percentage of par-
23 ticipants in competitive integrated employment two quar-
24 ters and four quarters after program completion, the me-
25 dian income of program participants two quarters and

1 four quarters after program completion, and the percent-
2 age of program participants receiving industry-recognized
3 credentials.

4 **SEC. 3. USE OF EXISTING FUNDS.**

5 No additional funds are authorized to carry out the
6 requirements of this Act. Such requirements shall be car-
7 ried out using amounts otherwise authorized.

○