

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8133

To amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to address workforce and skilled labor needs for the national defense, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2026

Mr. CASTEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To amend the Defense Production Act of 1950 to address workforce and skilled labor needs for the national defense, 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 “DPA Workforce and
5 Skilled Labor Needs Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. USE OF FUNDS FOR SKILLED LABOR.**

7 Section 303 of the Defense Production Act of 1950
8 (50 U.S.C. 4533) is amended by adding at the end the
9 following new subsection:

10 “(h) USE OF FUNDS FOR SKILLED LABOR.—

1 “(1) IDENTIFICATION OF WORKFORCE AND
2 SKILLS GAPS.—Each Federal agency to which the
3 President has delegated authority under this Act
4 shall identify any workforce gaps or skills gaps that
5 affect the ability of the domestic industrial base to
6 supply the materials and services necessary to sat-
7 isfy the objectives set forth in section 2(b).

8 “(2) USE OF FUNDS.—With respect to an enti-
9 ty receiving financial assistance under title I or this
10 title, the agency making such financial assistance
11 may direct that a portion of the financial assistance
12 be used to recruit, train, place, or retain workers in
13 defense-critical occupations directly related to the
14 activities funded by such assistance, if such entity
15 keeps records of performance standards for workers
16 recruited, trained, placed, or retained using such as-
17 sistance.

18 “(3) INFORMATION INCLUDED IN ANNUAL RE-
19 PORT.—Each Federal agency to which the President
20 has delegated authority under this Act shall include
21 in the annual report of the Defense Production Act
22 Committee required by section 722(d)—

23 “(A) a discussion of the identification re-
24 quired under paragraph (1) and the authority
25 provided under paragraph (2);

1 “(B) short-term and long-term rec-
2 ommendations for administrative or legislative
3 action to reduce any workforce gaps or skills
4 gaps identified by the agency, including rec-
5 ommendations on workforce training programs
6 to recruit, train, place, and retain workers in
7 occupations critical to the national defense, in-
8 cluding any apprenticeships.”.

9 **SEC. 3. SHORT TITLE CORRECTION.**

10 The first undesignated section of the Defense Pro-
11 duction Act of 1950 is amended, effective on the date of
12 enactment of such Act, by striking “cited as ‘the De-
13 fense’ ” and inserting “cited as the ‘Defense’ ”.

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