

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9097

To establish a new educational exchange program to strengthen manufacturing workforce education, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 2, 2026

Mr. HUIZENGA (for himself, Mr. OLSZEWSKI, Mrs. KIM, Mr. BILIRAKIS, and Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To establish a new educational exchange program to strengthen manufacturing workforce education, 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 “American Manufac-
5 turing Revitalization Exchange Program Act of 2026”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress that—

8 (1) the manufacturing industry requires a
9 skilled workforce across all educational and training

1 levels, including skilled technicians, production work-
2 ers, engineers, scientists, and laboratory personnel;

3 (2) the United States manufacturing sector
4 faces significant challenges due to an aging work-
5 force, labor shortages, difficulty recruiting and re-
6 taining skilled workers, and the long-term effects of
7 offshoring;

8 (3) in 1979, there were 19,600,000 workers in
9 manufacturing, according to the Bureau of Labor
10 Statistics;

11 (4) by 2019, 6,700,000 jobs were lost, accord-
12 ing to the Bureau of Labor Statistics;

13 (5) according to the Manufacturing Institute,
14 an affiliate of the National Association of Manufac-
15 turers, by 2033, the industry will require 3,800,000
16 additional workers, yet nearly half of these positions
17 may remain unfilled;

18 (6) according to the Manufacturing Institute,
19 the economic cost of these vacancies could total
20 \$1,000,000,000,000 by 2030;

21 (7) reshoring manufacturing has the potential
22 to create millions of high-wage jobs, many of which
23 do not require a four-year post-secondary degree but
24 may include industry-recognized certificates;

1 (8) according to National Association of Manu-
2 facturers, foreign direct investment in United States
3 manufacturing reached more than
4 \$2,400,000,000,000 in 2024, which has helped re-
5 shoring and job creation efforts with about 244,000
6 jobs in 2024 and, according to Manufacturers Alli-
7 ance, 268,000 jobs in 2023;

8 (9) current manufacturing workers need ongo-
9 ing training to keep pace with the expanding set of
10 skills required for high-quality, technologically ad-
11 vanced jobs;

12 (10) aligning workforce development programs
13 with industry needs is essential to foster the skills
14 and competencies necessary for high-quality jobs in
15 a globally competitive manufacturing sector;

16 (11) according to Apprenticeship USA, there
17 were 97,500 registered apprentices in the advanced
18 manufacturing industry in 2025, a 20 percent in-
19 crease over the past 5 years; and

20 (12) the United States should collaborate with
21 allied and partner nations to provide opportunities
22 for work-based learning, apprenticeships, certifi-
23 cation programs, cooperative education, and other
24 initiatives to engage the future workforce at all edu-
25 cational and career levels.

1 **SEC. 3. MANUFACTURING REVITALIZATION EXCHANGE**
2 **PROGRAM.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established an inter-
4 national exchange program to be known as the “American
5 Manufacturing Revitalization Exchange Program” (re-
6 ferred to in this section as the “Program”), which shall
7 be administered by the Assistant Secretary, in accordance
8 with subsection (c), to increase manufacturing knowledge,
9 training, experience, expertise, and workforce in the
10 United States.

11 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Program are
12 the following:

13 (1) To advance the domestic and foreign policy
14 priorities of the United States by promoting an
15 international workforce exchange in manufacturing
16 sectors, including—

17 (A) robotics;

18 (B) semiconductors;

19 (C) aeronautics, including space oper-
20 ations;

21 (D) additive manufacturing;

22 (E) ship building, including shipping man-
23 ufacturing;

24 (F) energy, including mining;

25 (G) automotive; and

1 (H) any other sector the Secretary of
2 State, in consultation with the Secretary of
3 Labor and the Secretary of Commerce, identi-
4 fies as strategically important or critical and
5 would benefit from the Program.

6 (2) To send United States citizens from a trade
7 or manufacturing background to manufacturing in-
8 stitutions, sectors, or companies in allied nations,
9 and, in particular, in allied nations who have entered
10 into trade agreements with the United States, to re-
11 ceive training in manufacturing skills.

12 (3) To build relations and to connect manufac-
13 turers in the United States with technical institu-
14 tions and manufacturing entities in allied nations to
15 share best practices for machine operations, assem-
16 bly, management, and other skills and expertise re-
17 lated to manufacturing or supply chain security.

18 (4) To assist in developing a robust and skilled
19 manufacturing workforce in the United States that
20 can support and fill the gaps within the United
21 States manufacturing sectors.

22 (5) To assist in expanding and modernizing the
23 manufacturing labor force in the United States
24 through increased workforce training and appren-
25 ticeship opportunities.

1 (6) To reduce reliance on the foreign manufac-
2 turing industry for skilled labor, components, parts,
3 processes, technology, and products related to na-
4 tional security and the manufacturing sectors and to
5 enhance the competitiveness of the United States
6 within the global manufacturing marketplace.

7 (7) To facilitate innovation with respect to cast-
8 ing, molding, forming, machining, assembling, addi-
9 tive manufacturing, and other processes pertaining
10 to manufacturing.

11 (8) Not to subsidize corporations by funding
12 the workforce training of persons who are affiliated
13 or have minority interest in a United States com-
14 pany that has subsidiaries in an allied country where
15 the program will take place.

16 (c) ADMINISTRATION OF PROGRAM.—

17 (1) PRIOR CONSULTATION.—The Assistant Sec-
18 retary, shall administer the Program after consulta-
19 tion with manufacturing industry leaders, Manufac-
20 turing USA, the Secretary of Commerce, the Assist-
21 ant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Train-
22 ing, labor organizations, allied governments, and
23 United States diplomatic and consular posts located
24 in allied nations.

1 (2) LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS.—The
2 Assistant Secretary shall select not more than 10
3 participants for the Program per year.

4 (3) PARTICIPANT SELECTION.—The Assistant
5 Secretary shall—

6 (A) select Program participants in accord-
7 ance with the eligibility criteria under sub-
8 section (d) and in consultation with the Sec-
9 retary of Commerce and the Assistant Sec-
10 retary of Labor for Employment and Training,
11 Manufacturing USA, and other manufacturing
12 groups; and

13 (B) ensure Program participants come
14 from a wide range of backgrounds and manu-
15 facturing regions in the United States.

16 (4) PARTICIPANT PLACEMENT.—

17 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Sec-
18 retary, in coordination with the Secretary of
19 Labor, the Secretary of Commerce, and United
20 States diplomatic and consular posts located in
21 allied nations, shall place Program participants
22 in a manufacturing sector, institution, or com-
23 pany approved by the Assistant Secretary in an
24 allied nation.

1 (B) OUTREACH.—To the extent prac-
2 ticable, the Assistant Secretary, in coordination
3 with United States diplomatic and consular
4 posts, Manufacturing USA, the Secretary of
5 Labor, the Secretary of Commerce, and other
6 relevant Government agencies, shall conduct
7 outreach to relevant manufacturing, workers,
8 and workforce training organizations, as well as
9 relevant manufacturing companies, higher edu-
10 cation institutions, and to allied governments
11 the Assistant Secretary determines are likely to
12 produce a range of qualified applicants to be
13 sent abroad.

14 (d) PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—

15 (1) MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS.—Each Pro-
16 gram participant shall—

17 (A) have—

18 (i) worked as an apprentice in a Pro-
19 gram-related manufacturing vocation, job,
20 or field, as determined by the Assistant
21 Secretary;

22 (ii) completed a Program-related
23 trade curriculum apprenticeship, or an
24 equivalent apprenticeship, as determined

1 by the Assistant Secretary in consultation
2 with the Secretary of Labor; or

3 (iii) enrolled in at least a two-year or
4 four-year higher education institution,
5 trade manufacturing institution, or voca-
6 tional school and completed necessary pre-
7 requisite courses and training as deter-
8 mined by the Assistant Secretary;

9 (B) be a United States citizen; and

10 (C) demonstrate proficiency in language
11 skills or provide a plan to obtain the language
12 skills necessary to participate in the Program
13 with respect to the allied nation the participant
14 will be placed in.

15 (2) ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS.—In select-
16 ing Program participants, the Assistant Secretary
17 may consider a variety of factors, including whether
18 participants—

19 (A) have experience as a manager or su-
20 pervisor in a field related to manufacturing;

21 (B) have experience as an instructor or
22 trainer in a vocation or apprentice program;

23 (C) hold a degree in a field related to man-
24 ufacturing;

1 (D) are in a position at a training program
2 overseen by a labor organization;

3 (E) have experience as an administrator in
4 a higher education institution related to manu-
5 facturing; or

6 (F) hold a faculty position in a higher edu-
7 cation institution related to manufacturing.

8 (e) STRUCTURE OF PROGRAM.—

9 (1) WORK PLAN.—To carry out the purposes
10 described in subsection (b)—

11 (A) with respect to Program participants,
12 the Assistant Secretary shall, in coordination
13 with United States diplomatic and consular
14 posts in allied nations, Manufacturing USA,
15 and other relevant Government agencies—

16 (i) approve a work plan that identifies
17 the target objectives for the participants,
18 including specific duties and responsibil-
19 ities relating to those objectives;

20 (ii) approve the manufacturing sec-
21 tors, companies, or institutions in allied
22 nations in which the participants will con-
23 duct their workforce exchange;

24 (iii) coordinate and be authorized to
25 enter into agreements with the Secretary

1 of Labor and other relevant Government
2 agencies to provide credentials or recogni-
3 tion of on-the-job training for participants
4 that align with manufacturing industry
5 standards upon completion of the Pro-
6 gram;

7 (iv) ensure that the knowledge, skills,
8 and processes acquired by the participant
9 are documented, where practicable,
10 through model-based work instructions,
11 digital assembly documentation, other dig-
12 ital manufacturing knowledge capture plat-
13 forms, or social media platforms, and dis-
14 seminated in a public form to Manufac-
15 turing USA, manufacturing institutions,
16 and employers upon the participant's re-
17 turn; and

18 (v) find ways for students enrolled in
19 a higher education institution or a voca-
20 tional or apprenticeship program to receive
21 course credit after participation, to the
22 best extent possible; and

23 (B) the participants shall—

24 (i) participate in pre-travel orientation
25 and information sessions to learn about

1 their host allied nation, the format of the
2 Program, and the work and training ex-
3 pected;

4 (ii) participate in advanced
5 coursework, research projects, or practical
6 training opportunities, offered by the host
7 institution during completion of the Pro-
8 gram;

9 (iii) engage with industry partners
10 and skilled experts to gain hands-on expe-
11 rience with respect to best practices in the
12 manufacturing industry;

13 (iv) participate in research projects or
14 practical training opportunities offered by
15 the host institution during completion of
16 the Program;

17 (v) participate in professional develop-
18 ment activities, such as conferences, work-
19 shops, trainings, and seminars, to expand
20 knowledge of best practices in manufac-
21 turing;

22 (vi) train with a professional skilled
23 tradesperson who has specialized expertise
24 related to a manufacturing sector;

1 (vii) record or track, to the best ex-
2 tent possible, their experiences and skills
3 learned, to share with the Bureau of Edu-
4 cational and Cultural Affairs, Manufac-
5 turing USA, manufacturing institutions,
6 and other relevant government entities;

7 (viii) serve as a cultural and work-
8 force ambassador of the United States,
9 fostering mutual understanding with the
10 host country's manufacturing community;

11 (ix) participate in professional devel-
12 opment activities, such as conferences,
13 workshops, trainings, and seminars, to ex-
14 pand knowledge of global best practices in
15 manufacturing;

16 (x) build and strengthen networks
17 with international peers, skilled
18 tradespersons, and industry professionals
19 to facilitate ongoing collaboration and
20 knowledge exchange;

21 (xi) receive, upon completion of the
22 Program, industry recognized credentials,
23 certificates, letters of completion, or
24 equivalents, to mark the completion of

1 training in the relevant skill or skills devel-
2 oped during the Program; and

3 (xii) be recognized, upon completion
4 of the Program, as alumni and, as such, be
5 eligible to participate in applicable Depart-
6 ment of State educational and cultural af-
7 fairs alumni networks, activities, and pro-
8 fessional development opportunities, sub-
9 ject to the availability of appropriations.

10 (2) PROGRAM PERIOD.—Program periods shall
11 be for a duration to be determined by the Assistant
12 Secretary but may not be for a period longer than
13 12 months. A one-time renewal for a period not
14 longer than 6 months may be granted by the Assist-
15 ant Secretary in consultation with the relevant
16 United States diplomatic and consular post and al-
17 lied nation government.

18 (f) EXCHANGE AWARD.—The Assistant Secretary
19 shall provide each Program participant with a stipend that
20 is equal to the amount needed for the participant’s reason-
21 able costs during the Program period, which may in-
22 clude—

23 (1) living expenses, including housing, basic
24 food costs, and daily transportation;

25 (2) essential training materials;

1 (3) mandatory visa application, immigration
2 fees, and other essential pre-departure requirements;

3 (4) relocation expenses including airline and rail
4 for Program required travel;

5 (5) in-country travel allowance essential to trav-
6 el to manufacturing sites and institutions and Pro-
7 gram related travels;

8 (6) health care for participant and dependents;

9 (7) software licenses, digital training platforms,
10 and digital tools necessary to participate in trainings
11 and skills learning; and

12 (8) other reasonable related costs approved by
13 the Assistant Secretary.

14 (g) REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date
15 of completion of the Program by the initial cohort of par-
16 ticipants, and on an annual basis thereafter, the Assistant
17 Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Foreign Af-
18 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee
19 on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report providing in-
20 formation on the implementation of the Program, includ-
21 ing—

22 (1) with respect to Program participants—

23 (A) background information, including—

24 (i) qualifications;

25 (ii) geographical origins; and

- 1 (iii) any other relevant information
2 the Assistant Secretary determines nec-
3 essary;
- 4 (B) the number of participants;
- 5 (C) the institutes, sectors, and companies
6 the participants were placed with;
- 7 (D) the type of work training the partici-
8 pants engaged in;
- 9 (E) the types of cultural events and activi-
10 ties the participants engaged in;
- 11 (F) feedback on the Program and lessons
12 learned;
- 13 (G) the jobs, vocations, or trades sought
14 after or obtained after completing the Program;
15 and
- 16 (H) feedback from the host institution, in-
17 dustry, or company about the contributions of
18 the participants;
- 19 (2) a description of manufacturing or work
20 placements selected and their relation to the develop-
21 ment of United States region-specific specialties
22 under the Program;
- 23 (3) a plan for factoring in the lessons learned
24 and acquired skills-based knowledge into Program
25 going forward;

1 (4) the total amount of funds used in support
2 of the Program and efforts taken to maximize the
3 efficiency and effectiveness of the funds used, includ-
4 ing encouraging industry partnerships and support
5 of the program;

6 (5) any potential legislative recommendations to
7 improve or enhance the Program to achieve the
8 goals;

9 (6) post-Program information that includes—

10 (A) the job, vocation, or trade the former
11 participant has sought after or obtained; and

12 (B) a report from the host institution, in-
13 dustry, or company the participant found place-
14 ment in, about the contributions of the partici-
15 pants;

16 (7) a description of the digital tools, platforms,
17 and methodologies used to capture and transfer
18 manufacturing knowledge from host institutions to
19 United States employers and training programs, and
20 an assessment of their effectiveness; and

21 (8) the total amount of funds used in support
22 of the Program and efforts taken to maximize the
23 efficiency and effectiveness of the funds used, includ-
24 ing encouraging industry partnerships and support
25 of the program.

1 **SEC. 4. IMPLEMENTATION COORDINATION ASSISTANCE.**

2 The Assistant Secretary, is encouraged to enter into
3 agreements with allied nations, and, in particular, in allied
4 nations who have entered into trade agreements with the
5 United States as well as corporate entities, and other ap-
6 propriate organizations to create forms of assistance for
7 the purposes of supporting and sustaining the develop-
8 ment, implementation, administration the American Man-
9 ufacturing Revitalization Program authorized under this
10 Act.

11 **SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO ENGAGE IN INDEPENDENT CON-**
12 **SULTATION.**

13 In carrying out section 3(a), the Assistant Secretary
14 is authorized and encouraged to consult, as appropriate,
15 with Manufacturing USA and other relevant manufac-
16 turing, technical, and workforce organizations to inform
17 the identification and selection of other priority manufac-
18 turing sectors to cooperate with when carrying out the
19 American Manufacturing Revitalization Program.

20 **SEC. 6. STUDY FOR FUTURE EXPANSION.**

21 The Assistant Secretary shall conduct a study on how
22 to expand and sustain the Program in the future so that
23 it builds partnerships with private sector, manufacturing
24 entities, the Department of Labor, the Department of
25 Commerce, and labor organizations, which may be con-
26 ducted in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, the

1 Secretary of Commerce, Manufacturing USA, relevant
2 Government agencies, and labor organizations.

3 **SEC. 7. SUNSET.**

4 This Act, the requirements of this Act, and the Amer-
5 ican Manufacturing Revitalization Program established by
6 this Act shall end on the date that is 2 years after the
7 date of enactment of this Act.

8 **SEC. 8. DEFINITIONS.**

9 In this Act:

10 (1) **ALLIED NATION.**—The term “allied na-
11 tion”—

12 (A) means—

13 (i) any country described in section
14 2350a(a)(2) of title 10, United States
15 Code, with a large manufacturing industry
16 that includes not less than one of the sec-
17 tors described in subsection (b)(1); or

18 (ii) any other country the Assistant
19 Secretary determines contains qualified
20 manufacturing sectors; and

21 (B) does not include any nation identified
22 as a “covered nation” in section 2533c(d)(2) of
23 title 10, United States Code.

24 (2) **ASSISTANT SECRETARY.**—The term “Assist-
25 ant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary for

1 Educational and Cultural Affairs, who shall be re-
2 sponsible to the Secretary of State, acting through
3 the Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy.

4 (3) LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.—The term “labor
5 organization” is as defined in section 152(5) of title
6 29, United States Code.

7 (4) MANUFACTURING SECTOR.—The term
8 “manufacturing sector” means to engage in the me-
9 chanical, physical, or chemical transformation of ma-
10 terials, substances, or components into new products
11 as defined by the North American Industry Classi-
12 fication System 31–33 of the Bureau of Labor Sta-
13 tistics.

14 (5) MANUFACTURING USA.—The term “Manu-
15 facturing USA” means the program established
16 under section 34 of the National Institute of Stand-
17 ards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C. 278s).

○