

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives treated as referring to Committee on Science of House of Representatives by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress. Committee on Science of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007. Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

§ 278j. Studies by National Research Council

The Director may periodically contract with the National Research Council for advice and studies to assist the Institute to serve United States industry and science. The subjects of such advice and studies may include—

- (1) the competitive position of the United States in key areas of manufacturing and emerging technologies and research activities which would enhance that competitiveness;
- (2) potential activities of the Institute, in cooperation with industry and the States, to assist in the transfer and dissemination of new technologies for manufacturing and quality assurance; and
- (3) identification and assessment of likely barriers to widespread use of advanced manufacturing technology by the United States workforce, including training and other initiatives which could lead to a higher percentage of manufacturing jobs of United States companies being located within the borders of our country.

(Mar. 3, 1901, ch. 872, §24, as added Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5114(2), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1432.)

§ 278k. Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) Appropriate committees of congress

The term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

- (A) the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate; and
- (B) the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives.

(2) Area career and technical education school

The term “area career and technical education school” has the meaning given the term in section 2302 of title 20.

(3) Center

The term “Center” means a manufacturing extension center that—

- (A) is created under subsection (b); and
- (B) is affiliated with an eligible entity that applies for and is awarded financial support under subsection (e).

(4) Community college

The term “community college” means an institution of higher education (as defined under section 1001(a) of title 20) at which the highest

degree that is predominately awarded to students is an associate’s degree.

(5) Eligible entity

The term “eligible entity” means a United States-based nonprofit institution, or consortium thereof, an institution of higher education, or a State, United States territory, local, or tribal government.

(6) Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership or Program

The term “Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership” or “Program” means the program established under subsection (b).

(7) MEP advisory board

The term “MEP Advisory Board” means the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Advisory Board established under subsection (n).¹

(b) Establishment and purpose

The Secretary, acting through the Director and, if appropriate, through other Federal officials, shall establish a program to provide assistance for the creation and support of manufacturing extension centers for the transfer of manufacturing technology and best business practices.

(c) Objective

The objective of the Program shall be to enhance competitiveness, productivity, and technological performance in United States manufacturing through—

(1) the transfer of manufacturing technology and techniques developed at the Institute to Centers and, through them, to manufacturing companies throughout the United States;

(2) the participation of individuals from industry, institutions of higher education, State governments, other Federal agencies, and, when appropriate, the Institute in cooperative technology transfer activities;

(3) efforts to make new manufacturing technology and processes usable by United States-based small and medium-sized companies;

(4) the active dissemination of scientific, engineering, technical, and management information about manufacturing to industrial firms, including small and medium-sized manufacturing companies;

(5) the utilization, when appropriate, of the expertise and capability that exists in Federal agencies, other than the Institute, and federally-sponsored laboratories;

(6) the provision to community colleges and area career and technical education schools of information about the job skills needed in manufacturing companies, including small and medium-sized manufacturing businesses in the regions they serve;

(7) the promotion and expansion of certification systems offered through industry, associations, and local colleges when appropriate, including efforts such as facilitating training, supporting new or existing apprenticeships, and providing access to information and experts, to address workforce needs and skills gaps in order to assist small- and medium-sized manufacturing businesses; and

¹ So in original. Probably should refer to subsec. (m).