

September 2016

The Honorable Mac Thornberry, Chairman
The Honorable Adam Smith, Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John McCain, Chairman
The Honorable Jack Reed, Ranking Member
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairmen and Ranking Members:

As the House and Senate conferees meet to reconcile the Fiscal Year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the undersigned organizations respectfully urge your support for Section 214, The Manufacturing Universities Grant Program, of S. 2943, the Senate-passed bill. The Manufacturing Universities Grant Program will allow the U.S. to invest in its domestic manufacturing capabilities and revamp engineering programs to focus on manufacturing and curricula specifically related to targeted industries in line with the mission of the Department of Defense.

The Manufacturing Universities Grant Program will help U.S. universities strengthen their engineering programs to meet the demands of the modern manufacturing industry. The U.S. will be better equipped to manufacture its own military technology. A stronger U.S. manufacturing base will also strengthen the economy as the jobs produced by manufacturing activities are generally high-paid and represent an entry point into the middle class for a significant portion of the workforce.

The impact of manufacturing extends to other sectors of the economy as well. Manufacturers contribute more on a dollar-for-dollar basis than any other sector of the economy, thanks to the multiplier effect of manufacturing on the shipping, power, and financial sectors, as well as a host of other highly skilled service sector industries. It is estimated that for every \$1 in manufacturing value added, \$1.48 in additional value is created in other sectors.

The Manufacturing Universities Grant Program will help maintain America's competitive edge with our military and our economy. As the conference reconciles the Fiscal Year 2017 NDAA, we again urge the conferees to include Section 214 of S. 2943 to establish the Manufacturing Universities Grant Program.

Sincerely,

3D Design and Manufacturing, LLC
AC/DC Machining & Electrical Ltd. (DBA) AC/DC Mechanical Consulting
Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Processes Institute, University of North Texas
Alcoa
American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics
Applied Research Laboratory at Penn State University
Arizona State University
ASME
Association of American Universities
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
Blanton Engineering, PC
Boise State University
Boston University
California State University, Sacramento

Carnegie Mellon University
Cedarville University
Center for Innovative materials Processing through Direct Digital Deposition (CIMP-3D) at Penn State
Central Washington University, Engineering Technologies Safety and Construction Department
Clemson University
Coalition for National Security Research (CNSR)
College of Engineering, Applied Science & Technology at Weber State University
Do It American MFG Company
Drexel University, Department of Mechanical Engineering and Mechanics
East Tennessee State University
Florida International University
French University in Egypt
George Fox University, College of Engineering
George Mason University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia Southern University College of Engineering & IT
Grand Valley State University
IEEE-USA
Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne
Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
ITIF
Jackson State University
Kansas State University
Kennesaw State University
Knickerbocker Machine Shop Inc.
Lake Superior State University
Lipscomb University
Lipscomb University, College of Engineering
LORD Corporation
Manufacturing Engineering, The Boeing Company
Michigan Technological University
New York Institute of Technology
North Carolina State University
Northern Illinois University
Northwestern State University of Louisiana
Oakland University
Oklahoma State University
Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology
Oregon Institute of Technology
Oregon State University
Penn State University
Pittsburg State University, College of Technology
Purdue University
Queensborough Community College, Department of Engineering Technology
Raymond B Jones College of Engineering
San Jose State University
Semiconductor Industry Association
Southern Methodist University
State University of New York

Stevens Institute of Technology
Tennessee Technological University
Texas A&M University
Texas Southern University
Texas State University
The Optical Society
UMass Amherst
University at Buffalo
University of California Riverside
University of California System
University of California, Irvine
University of Central Florida
University of Central Missouri
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Colorado Boulder & Colorado Mesa University Engineering Partnership
University of Delaware
University of District of Columbia
University of Florida
University of Houston, Mechanical Engineering Technology Program
University of Idaho
University of Iowa
University of Louisiana Lafayette Advanced Metal Forming Laboratory
University of Maine
University of Massachusetts Lowell
University of Michigan
University of Missouri System
University of Nevada Las Vegas
University of New Hampshire
University of North Texas
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma, Norman
University of Pittsburgh
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, Department of Mechanical Engineering
University of Rochester, Department of Mechanical Engineering
University of South Carolina
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
University of Texas at El Paso
University of Texas at Tyler, Department of Technology
University of Utah, Department of Mechanical Engineering
University of West Florida
University of Wisconsin Stout
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Washington State University
Western Carolina University
Western Michigan University
Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College
Youngstown State University