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(Original Signature of Member)

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a task force to identify vulnerabilities in supply chains for United States entities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. STEVENS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Commerce to establish a task force to identify vulnerabilities in supply chains for United States entities, 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 “Resilient Manufac-
5 turing Task Force Act of 2020”.

6 **SEC. 2. RESILIENT MANUFACTURING TASK FORCE.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

1 (1) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
2 of Commerce;

3 (2) the term “supply chain bottleneck” means
4 a limitation in a production value chain that re-
5 stricts the overall speed or reliability of the manu-
6 facturing process;

7 (3) the term “Task Force” means the Resilient
8 Manufacturing Task Force established under sub-
9 section (c)(1); and

10 (4) the term “veteran” has the meaning given
11 the term in section 101 of title 38, United States
12 Code.

13 (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
14 gress that—

15 (1) the COVID–19 pandemic has—

16 (A) exposed significant vulnerabilities in
17 the manufacturing sector of the economy of the
18 United States; and

19 (B) led to equipment shortages, supply
20 chain bottlenecks, and workforce misalignments;

21 (2) the vulnerabilities described in paragraph
22 (1) go largely unnoticed until they are revealed by
23 disease outbreaks, cyber attacks, natural disasters,
24 and other emergencies;

1 (3) the crises described in paragraph (2)
2 produce valuable information, the collection and
3 analysis of which can inform policies to fortify the
4 economy of the United States against future threats;
5 and

6 (4) the responsibility for promoting national
7 economic resilience lies with the Federal Govern-
8 ment, which must not miss the opportunity pre-
9 sented by the COVID–19 pandemic to learn from
10 that crisis and prepare the United States to better
11 withstand future emergencies.

12 (c) RESILIENT MANUFACTURING TASK FORCE.—

13 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days
15 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
16 retary, in coordination with the Secretary of
17 Defense, the Secretary of Energy, and the
18 heads of any other Federal agencies that the
19 Secretary determines appropriate, shall estab-
20 lish the Resilient Manufacturing Task Force.

21 (B) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SEC-
22 RETARY.—In carrying out subparagraph (A),
23 the Secretary, in coordination with the officials
24 described in that subparagraph, shall—

25 (i) determine—

1 (I) the number of members who
2 shall comprise the Task Force; and

3 (II) the qualifications of the
4 members described in subclause (I);

5 (ii) appoint the members of the Task
6 Force; and

7 (iii) establish procedures regarding
8 the operation of the Task Force, including
9 by determining the frequency with which
10 the Task Force shall meet.

11 (2) DUTIES.—The duties of the Task Force
12 shall be the following:

13 (A) To identify critical vulnerabilities in
14 the supply chains of products and resources
15 that are essential to the economic security of
16 the United States, focusing in particular on
17 vulnerabilities that have been exacerbated by
18 the COVID–19 pandemic.

19 (B) To mitigate the vulnerabilities de-
20 scribed in subparagraph (A) by developing
21 plans for the following:

22 (i) The formation of a National Man-
23 ufacturing Guard, which shall be a reserve
24 of industry volunteers who are trained and
25 empowered to, in times of crisis, help man-

1 age manufacturing supply chains, logistics
2 infrastructure, and workforce resources.

3 (ii) The establishment of a Supply
4 Chain Data Exchange, which shall support
5 the National Manufacturing Guard de-
6 scribed in clause (i) by providing real-time,
7 centralized information on a national scale
8 regarding, with respect to manufacturing
9 supply chains, inventory, capacity, re-
10 sources, and supply chain bottlenecks.

11 (iii) The formation of a Technology
12 Corps to serve as a workforce pipeline that
13 prioritizes manufacturing skills that the
14 Task Force and the National Manufac-
15 turing Guard described in clause (i) deter-
16 mine to be essential to the economic secu-
17 rity of the United States.

18 (C) In carrying out subparagraph (B)(iii),
19 to pay particular attention to increasing edu-
20 cational and training opportunities for under-
21 represented minorities, women, and veterans.

22 (3) ADVICE.—In carrying out the duties of the
23 Task Force, the Task Force shall seek to obtain ex-
24 pertise from the public and private sectors, including
25 from—

1 (A) manufacturing extension centers cre-
2 ated and supported under the Hollings Manu-
3 facturing Extension Partnership established
4 under section 25 of the National Institute of
5 Standards and Technology Act (15 U.S.C.
6 278k);

7 (B) industry consortia and trade groups;

8 (C) private business entities, including
9 small manufacturers;

10 (D) Federal, State, and local government
11 specialists, including economic policymakers and
12 military logistics experts;

13 (E) academic and research institutions;

14 (F) labor organizations; and

15 (G) Manufacturing USA institutes de-
16 scribed in section 34(d) of the National Insti-
17 tute of Standards and Technology Act (15
18 U.S.C. 278s(d)).

19 (4) TERMINATION.—The Task Force shall ter-
20minate on the date that is 1 year after the date on
21which the Secretary establishes the Task Force
22under paragraph (1).

23 (5) APPLICABILITY.—The Federal Advisory
24Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply with

1 respect to the Task Force or the activities of the
2 Task Force.

3 (d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary
4 shall—

5 (1) not later than 90 days after the date of en-
6 actment of this Act, submit to Congress a report re-
7 garding the formation of the Task Force, which
8 shall contain—

9 (A) an identification of the members of the
10 Task Force, the respective areas of expertise of
11 those members, and the expected roles of those
12 members; and

13 (B) a preliminary plan for carrying out the
14 duties of the Task Force, including forecasts
15 for costs, a preliminary timeline with respect to
16 the activities of the Task Force, and the ex-
17 pected resource needs of the Task Force; and

18 (2) not later than 90 days after the date on
19 which the Task Force terminates, submit to Con-
20 gress a report containing—

21 (A) a description of the activities of the
22 Task Force during the 1-year period in which
23 the Task Force was in effect;

24 (B) a comprehensive description of how the
25 Task Force carried out the duties of the Task

1 Force described in subsection (c)(2), which
2 shall include any related policy recommenda-
3 tions;

4 (C) a recommendation regarding whether
5 Congress should establish a Resilient Manufac-
6 turing Advisory Council to continue the role of
7 the Task Force on an extended or permanent
8 basis; and

9 (D) if applicable, a proposal outlining, with
10 respect to the Council described in subpara-
11 graph (C)—

12 (i) the scope and activities of the
13 Council; and

14 (ii) the funding and resource require-
15 ments of the Council.

16 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
17 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
18 \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2020 to carry out this section,
19 which shall remain available until expended.