



Legislative Bulletin.....September 21, 2005

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H.R. 250 —The Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2005

H.R. 250, the Manufacturing Technology Competitiveness Act of 2005, is scheduled to be considered on the House floor on Wednesday, September 21, 2005, subject to a structured rule ([H. Res. 451](#)). Below are the summaries of the five amendments made in order under the rule. Note: summaries are based on RSC staff's review of actual amendment text. For a summary of the underlying bill, see a separate RSC document released earlier this morning.

1. Boehlert (R-NY) #10: Manager's Amendment. Creates a new Katrina Assistance Program under the Manufacturing Extension Partnership program to "provide assistance to impacted small and medium-sized manufacturers in the areas affected by Hurricane Katrina." Requires the National Institute of Standards and Technology study the effects of Hurricane Katrina on physical structures to develop new information regarding building codes and standards and to review their adequacy.

2. Gordon (D-TN) #3: Requires the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to provide to the House Science Committee and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation a "3-year programmatic and operational plan" for the MEP. Requires the plan to include comments of the MEP National Advisory Board and of the State partners.

3. Jackson-Lee (D-TX) #8: Makes funds under the section titled "Technical Workforce Education and Development" available to "the maximum extent practicable, to diverse institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities and other minority serving institutions."

4. Larson (D-CT) #4: Creates a new Manufacturing and Technology Administration under the Department of Commerce. Includes the following within the new administration: the National Institute of standards and Technology, the National Technical Information Service, and the Office of Manufacturing and Technology Policy (formerly the policy analysis office). Establishes a new Undersecretary of Manufacturing, an Assistant Secretary of Manufacturing, and an Assistant Secretary of Technology. Requires the Manufacturing Administration to conduct broad-based manufacturing and technology policy analysis; and to coordinate with States, local governments, and universities on manufacturing and technology activities, and to "assist in the implementation of the Metric Conversion Act of 1975."

5. Udall (D-CO): Within the Technical Workforce Education and Workforce section, increases funding “to support the education and preparation of manufacturing technicians for certification” by \$15 million in FY06 (from \$55 million to \$70 million), by \$15.75 million in FY07 (from \$57.750 million to \$73.5 million), and by \$16.4 million in FY08 (from \$60.6 million to \$77 million).