



March 4, 2022

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell,

On February 4th, the House of Representatives passed the America Creating Opportunities for Manufacturing, Pre-Eminence in Technology, and Economic Strength (COMPETES) Act, which will strengthen America's competitiveness on the world stage. As members of the Future Forum Caucus, we write to request that specific provisions be maintained during the conference report.

Members of the Future Forum Caucus introduced the following provisions, focused on encouraging domestic manufacturing and supply chain resiliency:

- *National Institute of Standards and Technology for the Future Act of 2021*
 - A bipartisan and comprehensive reauthorization for the agency to support U.S. competitiveness through precision measurement research, technology development, partnerships with industry, facilitating and developing standards, and support for U.S. manufacturing.
- *H.R.4610 - To establish an expansion awards pilot program as a part of the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership, and for other purposes*
 - Expands awards made under the pilot program to these centers shall be used for purposes that include (1) improving the resiliency of domestic supply chains and mitigating vulnerabilities to cyberattacks, and (2) expanding advanced technology services to small and medium-sized manufacturers.
- *An Amendment similar to the SUPPLIES Act*
 - This provision requires HHS to consider small and medium-sized manufacturers when establishing partnerships and agreements with manufacturers and distributors in the supply chain flexibility manufacturing pilot for the Strategic National Stockpile.
- *DHS Software Supply Chain Risk Management Act of 2021*
 - This bill requires the DHS to issue guidance regarding new and existing contracts relating to the procurement of information and communications technology or services.

Furthermore, the America COMPETES Act includes bills and amendments dedicated to strengthening the United States' ability to lead technologically and create jobs of the future. We urge the inclusion of:

- *The RECOMPETE Act*
 - Establishes a RECOMPETE grant program to provide flexible, 10-year block grants for purposes of creating quality jobs, providing resources to help residents access opportunities, and attain and retain employment in persistently distressed areas.

- *The AI JOBS Act*
 - This legislation directs the Department of Labor to create a report analyzing the future of artificial intelligence and its impact on the American Workforce. Specifically, the report would collect data to analyze which industries are protected to have the most growth through artificial intelligence, and the demographics which may experience expanded career opportunities and those most vulnerable to job displacement
- *The Open RAN Outreach Act*
 - The Open RAN Outreach Act directs the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to provide outreach and technical assistance to small communications network providers regarding Open Radio Access Networks (Open RAN) technologies.
- *Blockchain/Crypto Amendment*
 - Requires the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to establish a blockchain and cryptocurrencies advisory specialist position within the Office to advise the President on matters related to blockchain and cryptocurrencies.

The mission of the Future Forum Congress is to advocate for solutions to issues of paramount concern for young Americans. With this in mind, we also urge the passage of the following environmental protections that will aid us in combatting the climate crisis:

- *Public Land Renewable Energy Development Act of 2021*
 - This provision will help combat the climate crisis and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by promoting development in wind, solar, and geothermal energy on public lands.
- *Restoring Resilient Reefs Act*
 - Establishes standards for the formation of partnerships among government and community members for the stewardship of coral reefs and strengthens federal government actions to preserve, conserve, and restore coral reef ecosystems.

The Future Forum is committed to advocating for young Americans through key policy initiatives. We believe that these provisions are not only critical to placing America on a path to lead the 21st century, but that they will address issues top-of-mind for Millennials and Gen-Z. Young Americans deserve robust future employment opportunities, long-term supply chain resiliency, strong domestic production, and meaningful solutions to the existential threat of our time, the climate crisis.

Sincerely,



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



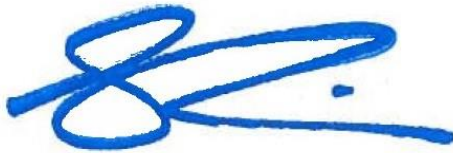
Haley Stevens
Member of Congress



Colin Allred
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