

Aric Newhouse

Senior Vice President Policy and Government Relations

June 25, 2014

United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, <u>urges you to support the Murray-Isakson-Harkin-Alexander substitute</u> amendment to H.R. 803, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

In a recent survey, over 80 percent of manufacturers reported a moderate or serious shortage of qualified applicants for skilled and highly-skilled production positions. By prioritizing federal skills training resources toward portable, certified skills, the reforms included in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act will help provide manufacturers with the skilled workforce they need to compete successfully in the global environment.

Additionally, by streamlining existing workforce programs, the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act will help ensure that limited federal resources will be used in the most effective and productive means possible.

The reforms included in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act will help existing and prospective manufacturing employees meet the needs of the modern workplace, ensuring that the manufacturing comeback will continue.

The NAM's Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on the substitute amendment to H.R. 803, including procedural votes, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 113th Congress. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Aric Newhouse
Senior Vice President
Policy and Government Relations
National Association of Manufacturers