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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 631 Session of  
2019

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INTRODUCED BY TARTAGLIONE, MUTH, FONTANA, SCHWANK, SANTARSIERO,  
STREET, FARNESE, BREWSTER AND COSTA, MAY 10, 2019

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REFERRED TO COMMUNITY, ECONOMIC AND RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,  
MAY 10, 2019

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AN ACT

1 Providing for the Manufacturing and Apprenticeship Grant  
2 Program; imposing powers and duties on the Department of  
3 Community and Economic Development; freezing certain funds  
4 for programs; and making an appropriation.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Manufacturing  
9 and Apprenticeship Grant Program Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
12 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Applicant." A manufacturing business located in this  
15 Commonwealth.

16 "Department." The Department of Community and Economic  
17 Development of the Commonwealth.

18 "Program." The Manufacturing and Apprenticeship Grant

1 Program established under section 3.

2 Section 3. Manufacturing and Apprenticeship Grant Program.

3 (a) Establishment.--The Manufacturing and Apprenticeship  
4 Grant Program is established and shall be administered by the  
5 department. The purpose of the program shall be to issue grants  
6 to promote manufacturing training that transition to careers  
7 across this Commonwealth.

8 (b) Application.--In order to apply for a grant, an  
9 applicant must submit a written grant application to the  
10 department in a manner prescribed by the department. The  
11 application shall include the following information:

12 (1) A detailed description of how the grant would be  
13 used, including any private sector participation.

14 (2) Other information that the department may require.

15 (c) Limitation.--An applicant may seek grant funding of up  
16 to \$2,000 for each apprentice employed under an apprenticeship  
17 agreement registered with the Office of Apprenticeship within  
18 the United States Department of Labor.

19 (d) Publication and notice.--The department shall publish  
20 notice of the program's availability in the Pennsylvania  
21 Bulletin.

22 (e) Department action.--The following apply:

23 (1) The department shall review the application and,  
24 within 60 days of receipt of an application, approve or  
25 disapprove the application. An application which has not been  
26 approved or disapproved by the department within the 60-day  
27 period shall be deemed approved.

28 (2) In reviewing grant applications, the department  
29 shall consider all of the following:

30 (i) Whether the project proposed to be funded is

1 authorized by this act.

2 (ii) Whether the application submitted under  
3 subsection (b) complies with this act.

4 (iii) Other criteria that the department considers  
5 relevant.

6 (3) In establishing grant priorities and leveraging  
7 other work force development, education and economic  
8 development investments, the department shall consult with  
9 the Department of Labor and Industry, the Department of  
10 Education and other applicable State work force agencies.

11 (f) Award of grants.--The department may issue a grant award  
12 to approved applicants for projects that support high-tech  
13 manufacturing, technical programs and education agencies to  
14 develop new or enhance existing training programs that align  
15 with the industry's work force needs throughout this  
16 Commonwealth.

17 Section 4. Previously appropriated funds and appropriation.

18 (a) Funds previously appropriated.--State funds appropriated  
19 for the following programs, and not encumbered by the effective  
20 date of this section, may not be encumbered and shall remain in  
21 the General Fund to effectuate this act:

22 (1) Pennsylvania First Program.

23 (2) Opportunity Grant Program.

24 (3) Infrastructure Development Program.

25 (b) Appropriation.--The sum of \$5,000,000, or as much  
26 thereof as may be necessary, is hereby appropriated to the  
27 department from the funds specified under subsection (a) to  
28 carry out the provisions of this act.

29 Section 5. Effective date.

30 This act shall take effect immediately.