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April 29, 2019

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson
Chair, House Committee on Science,
Space, and Technology
United States House of Representatives
2321 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Lucas
Ranking Member, House Committee on Science,
Space, and Technology
United States House of Representatives
H2-394 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Johnson and Ranking Member Lucas:

On behalf of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), I write to endorse the American Manufacturing Leadership Act and thank you for your important leadership in crafting this legislation. This bill makes important updates to the Manufacturing USA program that will allow for continued American leadership in advanced manufacturing.

Since the Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act (RAMI Act) was signed into law on December 16, 2014, the Manufacturing USA program has grown to include 14 individual manufacturing innovation Institutes, each focusing on a manufacturing technology area of significant national importance. Over the past five-and-a-half years, the expanded network of Institutes has yielded many successes—as outlined in past annual reports to Congress—and have learned to more efficiently and effectively accomplish the goal of promoting U.S. global leadership in advanced manufacturing. As best practices emerge from the Institutes, it is important to take the opportunity to reauthorize the existing program and implement lessons learned. We applaud the Committee for recognizing this opportunity and for proposing changes that promote a more efficient and successful program.

ASME supports the Committee's efforts to strengthen advanced manufacturing in the United States by reauthorizing the Manufacturing USA program and we are encouraged by the Committee's dedication to the continuation and growth of the program that has proven essential to national and economic security.

ASME applauds your work in Congress and we look forward to working with you to enact the American Manufacturing Leadership Act. If our community can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me or Kathryn Holmes, Director of ASME Government Relations at (202) 785-7390.

Sincerely,

Thomas Costabile, P.E.
Executive Director/CEO