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**AMENDMENT OFFERED BY _____ TO THE
AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

At the end of subtitle B of title IV, insert the following new section:

1 **SEC. 423. FEDERAL ACCELERATION OF STATE TECH-**
2 **NOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION PILOT PRO-**
3 **GRAM.**

4 The Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of
5 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3701 et seq.) is amended by adding at
6 the end the following:

7 **“SEC. 28. FEDERAL ACCELERATION OF STATE TECH-**
8 **NOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION PILOT PRO-**
9 **GRAM.**

10 **“(a) AUTHORITY.—**

11 **“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—**The Secretary shall es-
12 tablish a Federal Acceleration of State Technology
13 Commercialization Pilot Program or FAST Com-
14 mercialization Pilot Program to award grants to
15 States, or consortia thereof, for the purposes de-
16 scribed in paragraph (2). Awards under this section
17 shall be made through a competitive, merit-based
18 process.

1 “(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the program
2 under this section is to advance United States pro-
3 ductivity and global competitiveness by accelerating
4 commercialization of innovative technology by
5 leveraging Federal support for State commercializa-
6 tion efforts. The program shall provide matching
7 funds to a State, or consortium thereof, for the ac-
8 celeration of commercialization activities and the
9 promotion of small manufacturing enterprises in the
10 United States.

11 “(b) APPLICATION.—Applications for awards under
12 this section shall be submitted in such a manner, at such
13 a time, and containing such information as the Secretary
14 shall require, including—

15 “(1) a description of the current state of tech-
16 nology commercialization in the State or States, in-
17 cluding successes and barriers to commercialization;
18 and

19 “(2) a description of the State’s or consortium’s
20 plan for increasing commercialization of new tech-
21 nologies, products, processes, and services.

22 “(c) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall es-
23 tablish criteria for the selection of awardees, which shall
24 consider at a minimum a review of efforts during the fiscal
25 year prior to submitting an application to—

1 “(1) promote manufacturing; and

2 “(2) commercialize new technologies, products,
3 processes, and services, including activities to trans-
4 late federally funded research and technologies to
5 small manufacturing enterprises.

6 “(d) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—A State or consor-
7 tium receiving a grant under this section shall provide
8 non-Federal cash contributions in an amount equal to 50
9 percent of the total cost of the project for which the grant
10 is provided.

11 “(e) COORDINATION AND NONDUPLICATION.—In
12 carrying out the program under this section, the Secretary
13 shall ensure that grants made under the program are co-
14 ordinated with, and do not duplicate, the efforts of other
15 commercialization programs within the Federal Govern-
16 ment.

17 “(f) EVALUATION.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years
19 after the date of enactment of the FIRST Act of
20 2014, the Secretary shall enter into a contract with
21 an independent entity, such as the National Acad-
22 emy of Sciences, to conduct an evaluation of the pro-
23 gram established under subsection (a).

24 “(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The evaluation shall—

1 “(A) assess whether the program is achiev-
2 ing its goals;

3 “(B) include any recommendations for how
4 the program may be improved; and

5 “(C) include a recommendation as to
6 whether the program should be continued or
7 terminated.

8 “(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

9 “(1) the term ‘State’ has the meaning given
10 that term in section 3 of the Public Works and Eco-
11 nomic Development Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3122);
12 and

13 “(2) the term ‘commercialization’ has the
14 meaning given that term in section 9(e)(10) of the
15 Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638(e)(10)).

16 “(h) DURATION.—Each award shall be for a 5-year
17 period.

18 “(i) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
19 are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary
20 \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2015 through 2017
21 to carry out this section.”.

