AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2763
OFFERED BY MR. TONKO OF NEW YORK

At the end of the bill, add the following:

SEC. ____ . SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE VALUE OF THE
SBIR AND STTR PROGRAMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Numerous reviews by the National Academies have found that the SBIR and STTR programs are achieving their objectives of stimulating technological innovation, increasing small business participation in the Federal R&D enterprise, and increasing the commercialization of federally funded research and development.

(2) National Academies surveys of SBIR and STTR Phase II awardees over a 10-year period found that 27 percent of sales from technologies funded by the National Institutes of Health and 36 percent of sales from National Science Foundation technologies generated more than $1 million in revenue.

(3) A third-party assessment of the U.S. Air Force SBIR and STTR Program from 2000 through 2013 found that Phase II contracts generated out-
side follow-on investment of $1.9 billion, and sales of new products and services totaling $14.7 billion. Further, the study found that these contracts created an average of more than 16,000 new full-time jobs per year and resulted in $47.9 billion economic output nationwide.

(4) Seventy-five percent of respondents to a 2015 National Academies survey of National Institutes of Health SBIR and STTR awardees reported that the projects of such respondents would likely not, or definitely not, have proceeded without SBIR or STTR funding.

(5) The demand for the SBIR program remains high. At the National Science Foundation only 17.2 percent of Phase I proposals are funded and at the National Institutes of Health only 12.6 percent of Phase I proposals are funded.

(b) Sense of Congress.—It is the Sense of Congress that, to the extent it does not undermine other research and development programs, Federal agencies should consider providing additional support for the SBIR and STTR programs, especially in technology areas that are a high priority for the Federal agency’s mission and for our nation’s economy.