



Jay Timmons  
President and CEO

July 23, 2014

The Honorable Lamar Smith (R-TX)  
United States House of Representatives  
2409 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)  
United States House of Representatives  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith and Representative Johnson,

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest industrial trade association in the United States, representing small and large manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, strongly supports the *Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2013* (H.R. 2996). This legislation will accelerate the development of advanced manufacturing technologies and solidify the United States as the best place in the world to innovate.

Manufacturing innovation in the United States is as old as our country itself. Thomas Edison, Henry Ford, and the Wright Brothers developed, patented, and manufactured innovations that changed our economy and our society in ways no one could have imagined. Their research took years of trial and error. The type of public-private manufacturing hubs that H.R. 2996 would authorize funding for would not only lead to groundbreaking developments that have the potential to be on par with the light bulb or the airplane but it will get these products to market faster and drive the growth of jobs in the United States versus outside our borders.

The center currently operating in Youngstown, Ohio, in just one short year has already delivered transformative additive manufacturing solutions to its industry and community partners. The other centers being established in North Carolina, Illinois, and Michigan have the potential to deliver similar industry-changing technology to our economy. To help ensure the continued success of manufacturing in the United States it is vital that not only are these centers successful but that H.R. 2996 is signed into law and the full network of centers is realized and fully-funded across the entire country.

Manufacturing in the United States is poised for a comeback. The partnership between industry and the public sector has produced manufacturing innovations that has helped us lead the world in the past. For the manufacturing comeback to be a reality in the future, I urge you to support the *Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation Act of 2013* (H.R. 2996).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J Timmons'.

Jay Timmons

cc: Members of the House Science, Space and Technology Committee

JT/BR

*Leading Innovation. Creating Opportunity. Pursuing Progress.*