

“The FORWARD Act helps expand access to the R&D Tax credit to all manufacturers, but especially to those that are small to mid-sized,” **said Chuck Spangler, board chair of the American Small Manufacturers Coalition (ASMC) and President of the South Carolina Manufacturing Extension Partnership.** “ASMC is pleased to support this bill and we stand behind this investment and the incentives it offers to manufacturers.”

“Increased investment in R&D is critical to American competitiveness,” **said Doug Woods, President of the Association For Manufacturing Technology.** “Unfortunately, too often, small and medium-sized manufacturers lack sufficient resources to invest. Expanding the R&D tax credit to more of these firms will mean increased innovation, skilled jobs, and economic growth. AMT appreciates the leadership of the bill’s sponsors.”

“As the United States continues the work to recover from the global pandemic and grow as a leader in advanced manufacturing worldwide, it is critical that we have right tax policies in place to allow for the continued success of our domestic manufacturing sector, including the R&D and workforce infrastructure necessary to jump start the U.S. manufacturing economy,” **said Thomas Costabile, P.E., Executive Director and CEO of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.** “This Act will create more opportunities for these small businesses to engage and grow by allowing small manufacturers an expanded R&D tax credit. Further, this Act will encourage the manufacturing sector to evolve and expand by making it easier for manufacturers and start-ups to invest in workforce development initiatives that are so critical to supporting world-class industrial research.”

“Science and engineering-based innovation are critical for addressing a wide array of American challenges, including climate change and U.S. competitiveness,” **said Dr. Robert D. Atkinson, President of the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF).** “But the main federal incentive for private sector research – the R&D tax credit – needs both modernization and expansion. The FORWARD Act does just that, and if passed would spur more American innovation, job creation and competitiveness.”

“We [...] applaud and support Senator Coons and others’ continued effort to enhance the U.S. R&D tax credit,” **said Myunghye Geerts, CPA, Director of Cover & Rossiter.** “The newly proposed regulations will tremendously benefit small business taxpayers. Especially considering an economic downturn resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, the timing couldn’t be better.”

“On behalf of an organization that represents large and small manufacturing communities around the nation, the Manufacturing Alliance of Communities (MAC) strongly supports the reintroduction of the FORWARD Act by Senator Chris Coons,” **said Bill Hanka, Director at the Manufacturing Alliance of Communities.** “We have seen American manufacturing buffeted by fierce headwinds over the past year, but we also saw a heroic effort by many manufacturers to meet the urgent and unprecedented demands caused by the coronavirus pandemic... Our citizens and communities are stronger when there are opportunities to work in the manufacturing sector, with its high-paying, quality jobs and the FORWARD is exactly the type of targeted, intelligent legislation that will be of use to our nation’s manufacturers.”

“Research and development are often at the heart of innovation (and occasionally invention). R&D represents efforts companies take on to improve products, innovate, and introduce new products and services,” **said Robert E. Mansfield Jr., Big Gen, USAF (RET), Managing Director of International Manufacturing Systems International.** “Since there is no immediate payoff from R&D, often promising R&D projects simply cannot meet the [return on investment] needed to justify a promising R&D expenditure. Often small firms, with innovation technologies and approaches, in the early years are without the benefit of tax credits. We, therefore, strongly support the portions of the bill that includes provisions for small business research and development”

"Research is the cornerstone of America's economy and critical to our global competitiveness. R&D that strengthens manufacturers and taps into the expertise of our universities and federal labs is particularly valuable, which the FORWARD Act prioritizes," **said Dan Berglund, President and CEO of the State Science & Technology Institute.** "We applaud Senators Coons and Daines for their leadership on this important issue."