



## U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, & TRANSPORTATION

CHAIRMAN ROGER WICKER

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### **Wicker, Cantwell Introduce Advanced Technological Manufacturing Act**

**WASHINGTON** – U.S. Sens. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., chairman of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., ranking member of the committee, introduced S. 3704, the Advanced Technological Manufacturing Act, to reauthorize and modernize the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Advanced Technological Education (ATE) program.

“High-tech fields drive our nation’s economy,” said **Wicker**. “I am pleased to introduce this bill to modernize the Advanced Technological Education program. This legislation would spur economic recovery in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic by developing a workforce prepared to fill roles in advanced technological sectors. Training today’s students for tomorrow’s jobs is a major priority for me.”

“If America is going to continue to lead the world in the advanced technology sector, we must invest in training for American students today — and not just with 4-year degree programs but more targeted skill-building as well,” said **Cantwell**. “Community and Technical Colleges have led the way in skilling a workforce for STEM jobs. But we need more institutions to participate, and this NSF legislation further incentivizes more STEM education in America.”

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**The Advanced Technological Manufacturing Act would:**

- Modernize the Scientific and Advanced-Technology Act of 1992.
- Direct the NSF director to establish a series of pilot programs to expand the number of institutions of higher education that can successfully compete for NSF grants.

This week, community college leaders from 45 states sent a [letter](#) to Chairman Wicker, Ranking Member Cantwell, Chairwoman Johnson, and Ranking Member Lucas requesting their support of S. 3704.

Click [here](#) to read the full bill.

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