

2892-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Upthegrove, Schual-Berke, G. Simpson, Cairnes, Wallace, Veloria, Wood, Kenney, Morrell and Conway)

Brief Description: Manufacturing center Revised for 1st Substitute: Creating a center for advanced manufacturing.

**HB 2892-S.E - DIGEST**

(AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 2/14/04)

Declares that, although manufacturing has long been subject to the ups and downs of regular market cycles, the increasing pace of globalization and the ability of the world's new manufacturing floor to export deflation has caused United States manufacturers to lose all pricing power. Despite the development of good cost control practices such as lean manufacturing, domestic manufacturers cannot compete on price alone.

Declares that, as our economy continues to evolve through changes to our existing manufacturing base, our manufacturers need assistance to continue to provide high quality products at a low cost. In order to make a radical change to an innovation focus, there must be a public and private partnership.

Provides that a feasibility study and economic analysis for the creation of a center for advanced manufacturing must be conducted by a qualified organization chosen by the department of community, trade, and economic development and should include, but is not limited to, a center for advanced manufacturing that offers:

- (1) A research institution to transfer technology for commercial applications in small and mid-market manufacturers;

- (2) A clearinghouse and national research library that locates best practices information, disseminates national research, and provides a publicly accessible research library; and

- (3) Ongoing training, and curriculum and courses to develop a skilled work force, with a focus on quality efficiency practices.

Requires the feasibility study and economic analysis to be delivered to the appropriate committees of the legislature by December 31, 2005.

Provides that the act shall be null and void if appropriations are not approved.