As Reported by the House Technology and Innovation Committee

136th General Assembly

Regular Session 2025-2026

Am. H. B. No. 159

Representatives Santucci, Demetriou Cosponsor: Representative Mathews, T.

То	enact section 122.162 of the Revised Code to	-
	create the manufacturing technologies assistance	2
	grant program and to make an appropriation.	

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That section 122.162 of the Revised Code be	4
enacted to read as follows:	5
Sec. 122.162. (A) As used in this section:	6
(1) "Eligible project" means a project intended to	7
increase the productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness of a	8
manufacturing operation in this state by adopting and	9
integrating manufacturing technologies and investing in	10
industrial infrastructure.	11
(2)(a) "Eligible manufacturer" means a person that:	12
(i) Manufactures, processes, assembles, or refines goods	13
at a facility located in this state;	14
(ii) Has a north American industry classification system	15
code within the manufacturing sector range of thirty-one to	16
thirty-three;	17
(iii) Has operated as a manufacturer in this state for at	18

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robotics, hardware, software, and equipment, and training	47
expenses associated with any of the foregoing.	
(5) "Ineligible expenses" include all of the following:	49
(a) Payment of any federal, state, or local tax	50
obligations;	51
(b) Payment of nonbusiness-related expenses;	52
(c) Political expenses;	53
(d) Expenses for which the person has received, or will	54
receive reimbursement from another source, including another	55
government grant or loan program or insurance coverage;	56
(e) Mortgage, rent, or lease costs;	57
(f) Utility costs, including electric, gas, sewer, water,	58
broadband services, and trash removal;	59
(g) Salaries, wages, or compensation paid to employees or	60
<pre>independent contractors;</pre>	61
(h) Personal protective equipment, as defined in section	62
125.05 of the Revised Code.	63
(6) "Manufacturing industry partner" means a regional	64
partner of the manufacturing extension partnership administered	65
by the department of development and the national institute of	66
standards and technology within the United States department of	67
commerce.	68
(B)(1) The manufacturing technologies assistance program	69
is created within the department of development. Under the	70
program, an eligible manufacturer may apply to the director of	71
development for a grant to fund one or more eligible projects.	72
(2) Before applying for a grant under this section, an	73

a portion of the grant funds received. The required repayment	187	
shall not exceed the grant amount, reduced by ten per cent for	188	
each full year between the date the department awards the grant	189	
and the date of the event. The department shall notify the		
eligible manufacturer of the amount of any required repayment.	191	
(3) The eligible manufacturer may appeal, in accordance	192	
with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the department's	193	
determination that an event described in division (E)(1) of this	194	
section has occurred, the required repayment amount, or both.	195	
(4) The director shall certify to the attorney general for	196	
collection any repayment amounts that remain unpaid ninety days	197	
after notice is sent to the eligible manufacturer under division	198	
(E) (2) of this section or, if the eligible manufacturer	199	
initiates an appeal, within ninety days after the appeal is	200	
adjudicated.	201	
(F) The director of development shall adopt rules in	202	
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code prescribing all		
of the following:	204	
(1) An application process for the grant program,	205	
including the designation of one or more periods each year	206	
during which applications will be accepted;	207	
(2) The competitive process to review and score	208	
applications described under division (B)(3) of this section;	209	
(3) The form of the final report required by division (D)	210	
(3) of this section.	211	
(G) The manufacturing technologies assistance fund is	212	
created in the state treasury. The fund shall consist of money		
appropriated to the fund by the general assembly, application	214	
fees collected under division (B)(6) of this section, and	215	

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repayment collected under division	on (D) or (E)	of this section	<u>. </u>	216		
Money in the fund shall be used by	t_	217				
to award grants under the manufacturing technologies assistance						
program and to administer this se	program and to administer this section. Interest earned on money					
in the fund shall be credited to	the fund.			220		
Section 2. All items in thi	s act are he	reby appropriated	d	221		
as designated out of any moneys	in the state	treasury to the		222		
credit of the designated fund. For	or all operat	ing appropriatio	ns	223		
made in this act, those in the f	irst column a	re for fiscal ye	ar	224		
2026 and those in the second colu	umn are for f	iscal year 2027.		225		
The operating appropriations made	e in this act	are in addition	to	226		
any other operating appropriation	ns made for t	hese fiscal year	s.	227		
Section 3.				228		
				229		
1 2	3	4	5			
A DEV DEPA	RTMENT OF DEV	ELOPMENT				
B Dedicated Purpose Fund Group						
C 5BF1 1956H6 Manufactu Assistanc	ring Tech	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000			
D TOTAL Dedicated Purpose Fund	Group	\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000			
E TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS		\$12,000,000	\$12,000,000			
MANUFACTURING TECH ASSISTAN	ICE			230		
The foregoing appropriation	n item 1956H6	, Manufacturing		231		
Tech Assistance, shall be used to administer the Manufacturing						
Technologies Assistance Program established under section						
122.162 of the Revised Code.						

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On the effective date of this section, or as soon as	235	
possible thereafter, the Director of Budget and Management shall	236	
transfer \$24,000,000 cash from the General Revenue Fund to the	237	
Manufacturing Technologies Assistance Fund (Fund 5BF1).	238	
Section 4. Within the limits set forth in this act, the	239	
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts	240	
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation	241	
made in this act, and shall determine the manner in which	242	
appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures from	243	
operating appropriations contained in this act shall be	244	
accounted for as though made in, and are subject to all	245	
applicable provisions of, the main operating appropriations act	246	
of the 136th General Assembly.	247	