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House of Representatives HONORING MANUFACTURING MATTERS

HON. LUKE MESSER
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. MESSER of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the first graduates of Manufacturing Matters, a fast track training program in Richmond, Indiana.

The collaborative program is being spearheaded by Ivy Tech Community College WorkOne, and the Economic Development Corporations and Chambers of Commerce from Wayne, Rush, and Fayette counties to provide individuals the skills to succeed in the manufacturing industry. I am proud to announce that twelve people became the first graduates of this program on January 31, 2014. The first class includes Jarrod Andrews, Mary Ann Frazier, Bob Harding, Mark Hawkins, Marc Lechuga, Dylan McLemore, Darren McEwen, Rita Robinson, Chris Studt, Randy Tucker, Wilmi Vizcaino, and Kenny Warner.

Manufacturing Matters aims to cultivate a skillset that program participants can apply to future manufacturing jobs. The program provides hardworking individuals the opportunity to develop a comprehensive understanding of manufacturing processes, safety, quality, and leadership.

In addition to the technical skills learned, the program participants attended a job fair to connect with potential employers. Manufacturing Matters has partnered with several organizations in Indiana from leading energy groups to local governments in an effort to employ the program graduates. The job fair matched employers with applicants who were ready for on-the-job success.

This program equips individuals with the tools to work and provides competent staff to businesses in the manufacturing industry. As a Member of Congress, I strongly support programs like Manufacturing Matters that strengthen the American manufacturing industry.
