



## **New Democrat Coalition Policy Priorities to Secure U.S. Supply Chains, Create Jobs, Spur Innovation, and Strengthen American Global Leadership**

The New Democrat Coalition (NDC) is focused on growing the economy, creating jobs, and enhancing American innovation and competitiveness. As Congress continues its work to reach an agreement on the bipartisan United States Innovation and Competition Act (USICA) and related House legislation, the NDC has developed priorities to strengthen our supply chains, fight long-term inflation, invest in innovation, reclaim U.S. global leadership, safeguard U.S. capabilities in critical industries, and ensure American workers, manufacturers, and businesses thrive in our global economy.

New Dems will work to deliver on the following priorities as Congress finalizes this legislation:

### **1. Secure U.S. Supply Chains for Critical Goods and Technologies:**

- Increase and secure the supply of semiconductors and microchips and support domestic manufacturing of these critical goods and technologies, including mature semiconductor technologies like those needed for cars and trucks, by fully funding the [CHIPS for America Act](#).
- Work with our allies, close trading partners, and U.S. businesses to diversify and secure reliable global supply chains for critical goods, including by helping American small businesses relocate foreign operations back to the U.S. and, as appropriate, partner nations that share our values.
- Invest in advanced manufacturing and workforce development, including through increased funding for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).
- Create a dedicated office within the Department of Commerce, improve data coordination and insight, and dedicate resources to strengthen supply chains, help prevent and respond to shortages, and support domestic manufacturing of critical goods.

### **2. Create Jobs and Spur Innovation across the Country:**

- Establish new innovation centers in regions outside of existing technology hubs through a competitive grant program that awards grants for scientific and engineering research and related infrastructure, skilled workforce training, and economic development projects.
- Direct a portion of increased scientific research funding to these new innovation centers to maximize the impact of federal investments and unleash technology innovation and job creation.

- Prioritize a competitive selection process that promotes regional diversity and communities with untapped resources and the potential to quickly build and support the growth of the local tech industry.
  - Expand graduate research fellowships and programs focused on undergraduate research opportunities at historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, and tribal colleges and universities to train the next generation of job creators, scientists, and technologists.
- 3. Increase Investments in Scientific and Engineering Research:**
- Significantly increase federal research and development funding so America leads in innovation and the creation and commercialization of next-generation technologies.
  - Enhance basic science and engineering research at the National Science Foundation (NSF) and empower researchers and experts to pursue the full range of emerging science and technologies.
  - Establish and fully fund a Directorate of Science and Engineering Solutions at the NSF and ensure existing translational research activities, including through the Department of Energy's Office of Science and NIST, are appropriately funded and directed, in order to accelerate translational research into commercial technology applications.
- 4. Strengthen American Global Leadership:**
- Recommit the United States to global leadership and support of multilateral organizations and the rules-based international order to promote American values and ingenuity abroad, and strengthen ties with our allies and close trading partners.
  - Leverage and enhance diplomatic, trade and economic tools with strong Congressional oversight to strengthen American competitiveness in the global economy and meet the challenge of the People's Republic of China's unfair trade practices, market manipulations, censorship and surveillance, and human rights abuses in Xinjiang, Hong Kong, and elsewhere.
  - Support international collaboration on research security standards and partnerships with allied countries and take stronger steps to secure U.S. intellectual property.

As Congress continues its work to finalize legislation related to U.S. innovation and competition, the NDC urges expedient action through regular order to advance a bill to President Biden's desk early next year. The New Democrat Coalition has long supported a return to regular order both in name and spirit that empowers individual Members and Committees to fully utilize their policy expertise and authorities to craft the strongest legislation with the broadest coalition of support possible.