

shall be available for the University Research Initiative Support Program.”

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT; BID AND PROPOSAL COSTS; NEGOTIATION OF ADVANCE AGREEMENTS WITH CONTRACTORS; ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Pub. L. 91-441, title II, §203, Oct. 7, 1970, 84 Stat. 906, as amended by Pub. L. 96-342, title II, §208, Sept. 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 1081, provided that no funds authorized to be appropriated to Department of Defense by this or any other Act were to be used to finance independent research and development or bid and proposal costs unless such work had, in opinion of Secretary of Defense, potential relationship to military functions or operations, and advance agreements regarding payment for such work had been negotiated, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title VIII, §824(b), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1604. See section 2372 of this title.

RELATIONSHIP OF RESEARCH PROJECTS OR STUDIES TO MILITARY FUNCTION OR OPERATION

Pub. L. 91-441, title II, §204, Oct. 7, 1970, 84 Stat. 908, which provided that no funds authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense by this or any other Act may be used to finance any research project or study unless such project or study has, in the opinion of the Secretary of Defense, a potential relationship to a military function or operation, was repealed and restated in subsec. (b) of this section by Pub. L. 100-370, §1(g)(3)(C), (5), July 19, 1988, 102 Stat. 847.

HERBICIDES AND DEFOLIATION PROGRAM; COMPREHENSIVE STUDY AND INVESTIGATION; REPORT BY JANUARY 31, 1972; TRANSMITTAL TO PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS BY MARCH 1, 1972

Pub. L. 91-441, title V, §506(c), Oct. 7, 1970, 84 Stat. 913, directed Secretary of Defense to enter into appropriate arrangements with National Academy of Sciences to conduct a comprehensive study and investigation to determine (A) ecological and physiological dangers inherent in use of herbicides, and (B) ecological and physiological effects of defoliation program carried out by Department of Defense in South Vietnam, with a report on the study to be transmitted to President and Congress by Mar. 1, 1972.

CAMPUSES BARRING MILITARY RECRUITERS; CESSATION OF PAYMENTS; NOTIFICATION OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Pub. L. 92-436, title VI, §606, Sept. 29, 1972, 86 Stat. 740, provided that:

“(a) No part of the funds appropriated pursuant to this or any other Act for the Department of Defense or any of the Armed Forces may be used at any institution of higher learning if the Secretary of Defense or his designee determines that recruiting personnel of any of the Armed Forces of the United States are being barred by the policy of such institution from the premises of the institution: except in a case where the Secretary of the service concerned certifies to the Congress in writing that a specific course of instruction is not available at any other institution of higher learning and furnishes to the Congress the reasons why such course of instruction is of vital importance to the security of the United States.

“(b) The prohibition made by subsection (a) of this section as it applies to research and development funds shall not apply if the Secretary of Defense or his designee determines that the expenditure is a continuation or a renewal of a previous program with such institution which is likely to make a significant contribution to the defense effort.

“(c) The Secretaries of the military departments shall furnish to the Secretary of Defense or his designee within 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Sept. 29, 1972] and each January 31 and June 30 thereafter the names of any institution of higher learning which the Secretaries determine on such dates are affected by the prohibitions contained in this section.”

Similar provisions were contained in the following prior authorization acts:

Pub. L. 92-156, title V, §502, Nov. 17, 1971, 85 Stat. 427.
Pub. L. 91-441, title V, §510, Oct. 7, 1970, 84 Stat. 914.

FEDERAL CONTRACT RESEARCH CENTERS; OFFICERS' COMPENSATION; NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS

Pub. L. 91-121, title IV, §407, Nov. 19, 1969, 83 Stat. 208, related to restrictions on use of appropriations for compensation of officers and employees of Federal contract research centers, and notice requirements respecting such payments, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 96-107, title VIII, §819(c), Nov. 9, 1979, 93 Stat. 819. See section 2359 of this title.

§ 2359. Science and technology programs to be conducted so as to foster the transition of science and technology to higher levels of research, development, test, and evaluation

(a) POLICY.—Each official specified in subsection (b) shall ensure that the management and conduct of the science and technology programs under the authority of that official are carried out in a manner that will foster the transition of science and technology to higher levels of research, development, test, and evaluation.

(b) COVERED OFFICIALS.—Subsection (a) applies to the following officials of the Department of Defense:

(1) The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics.

(2) The Secretary of each military department.

(3) The Director of the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

(4) The directors and heads of other offices and agencies of the Department of Defense with assigned research, development, test, and evaluation responsibilities.

(Added Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title IX, §904(a)(1)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-225.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2359, added Pub. L. 96-107, title VIII, §819(a)(1), Nov. 9, 1979, 93 Stat. 818, related to reports on salaries of officers of Federal contract research centers, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XIII, §1322(a)(5), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1671.

PROOF OF CONCEPT COMMERCIALIZATION PILOT PROGRAM

Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVI, §1603, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 944, as amended by Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title VIII, §818, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3432, provided that:

“(a) PILOT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Defense, acting through the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the Secretary of each military department, may establish and implement a pilot program, to be known as the ‘Proof of Concept Commercialization Pilot Program’, in accordance with this section.

“(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the pilot program is to accelerate the commercialization of basic research innovations from qualifying institutions.

“(c) AWARDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the pilot program, the Secretary shall make financial awards to qualifying institutions in accordance with this subsection.

“(2) COMPETITIVE, MERIT-BASED PROCESS.—An award under the pilot program shall be made using a competitive, merit-based process.

“(3) ELIGIBILITY.—A qualifying institution shall be eligible for an award under the pilot program if the institution agrees to—

“(A) use funds from the award for the uses specified in paragraph (5); and

“(B) oversee the use of the funds through—

“(i) rigorous review of commercialization potential or military utility of technologies, including through use of outside expertise;

“(ii) technology validation milestones focused on market feasibility;

“(iii) simple reporting on program progress; and

“(iv) a process to reallocate funding from poor performing projects to those with more potential.

“(4) CRITERIA.—An award may be made under the pilot program to a qualifying institution in accordance with the following criteria:

“(A) The extent to which a qualifying institution—

“(i) has an established and proven technology transfer or commercialization office and has a plan for engaging that office in the program’s implementation or has outlined an innovative approach to technology transfer that has the potential to increase or accelerate technology transfer outcomes and can be adopted by other qualifying institutions;

“(ii) can assemble a project management board comprised of industry, start-up, venture capital, technical, financial, and business experts;

“(iii) has an intellectual property rights strategy or office; and

“(iv) demonstrates a plan for sustainability beyond the duration of the funding from the award.

“(B) Such other criteria as the Secretary determines necessary.

“(5) USE OF AWARD.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the funds from an award may be used to evaluate the commercial potential of existing discoveries, including activities that contribute to determining a project’s commercialization path, including technical validations, market research, clarifying intellectual property rights, and investigating commercial and business opportunities.

“(B) LIMITATIONS.—

“(i) The amount of an award may not exceed \$1,000,000 a year.

“(ii) Funds from an award may not be used for basic research, or to fund the acquisition of research equipment or supplies unrelated to commercialization activities.

“(d) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the establishment of the pilot program, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] and to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report evaluating the effectiveness of the activities of the pilot program. The report shall include—

“(1) a detailed description of the pilot program;

“(2) an accounting of the funds used in the pilot program;

“(3) a detailed description of the institutional selection process;

“(4) a detailed compilation of results achieved by the pilot program; and

“(5) an analysis of the program’s effectiveness, with data supporting the analysis.

“(e) QUALIFYING INSTITUTION DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘qualifying institution’ means a non-profit institution, as defined in section 4(3) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703(3)), or a Federal laboratory, as defined in section 4(4) of the Stevenson-Wylder Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. 3703(4)).

“(f) LIMITATION AND USE OF FUNDS.—Not more than \$5,000,000 may be obligated or expended to conduct the pilot program under this section. The Secretary of a military department may use basic research funds, or other funds considered appropriate by the Secretary, to

conduct the pilot program within the military department concerned.

“(g) TERMINATION.—The pilot program conducted under this section shall terminate on September 30, 2019.”

DEFENSE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT RAPID INNOVATION PROGRAM

Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title X, §1073, Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4366, provided that:

“(a) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a competitive, merit-based program to accelerate the fielding of technologies developed pursuant to phase II Small Business Innovation Research Program projects, technologies developed by the defense laboratories, and other innovative technologies (including dual use technologies). The purpose of this program is to stimulate innovative technologies and reduce acquisition or lifecycle costs, address technical risks, improve the timeliness and thoroughness of test and evaluation outcomes, and rapidly insert such products directly in support of primarily major defense acquisition programs, but also other defense acquisition programs that meet critical national security needs.

“(b) GUIDELINES.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 7, 2011], the Secretary shall issue guidelines for the operation of the program. At a minimum such guidance shall provide for the following:

“(1) The issuance of an annual broad agency announcement or the use of any other competitive or merit-based processes by the Department of Defense and by each military department for candidate proposals in direct support of primarily major defense acquisition programs, but also other defense acquisition programs as described in subsection (a).

“(2) The review of candidate proposals by the Department of Defense and by each military department and the merit-based selection of the most promising cost-effective proposals for funding through contracts, cooperative agreements, and other transactions for the purposes of carrying out the program.

“(3) The total amount of funding provided to any project under the program shall not exceed \$3,000,000, unless the Secretary, or the Secretary’s designee, approves a larger amount of funding for the project. Any such approval shall be made on a case-by-case basis and notice of any such approval shall be submitted to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] by not later than 30 days after such approval is made.

“(4) No project shall be funded under the program for more than two years, unless the Secretary, or the Secretary’s designee, approves funding for any additional year. Any such approval shall be made on a case-by-case basis and notice of any such approval shall be submitted to the congressional defense committees by not later than 30 days after such approval is made.

“(c) TREATMENT PURSUANT TO CERTAIN CONGRESSIONAL RULES.—Nothing in this section shall be interpreted to require or enable any official of the Department of Defense to provide funding under this section to any earmark as defined pursuant to House Rule XXI, clause 9, or any congressionally directed spending item as defined pursuant to Senate Rule XLIV, paragraph 5.

“(d) FUNDING.—Subject to the availability of appropriations for such purpose, the amounts authorized to be appropriated for research, development, test, and evaluation for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2015 may be used for any such fiscal year for the program established under subsection (a).

“(e) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may transfer funds available for the program to the research, development, test, and evaluation accounts of a military department, defense agency, or the unified combatant command for special operations forces pursuant to a proposal, or any part of a proposal, that the

Secretary determines would directly support the purposes of the program. The transfer authority provided in this subsection is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense.

“(f) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the last day of a fiscal year during which the Secretary carries out a program under this section, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that includes a list and description of each project funded under this section, including, for each such project, the amount of funding provided for the project, the defense acquisition program that the project supports, including the extent to which the project meets needs identified in its acquisition plan, the anticipated timeline for transition for the project, and the degree to which a competitive, merit-based process was used to evaluate and select the performers of the projects selected under this program.

“(g) TERMINATION.—The authority to carry out a program under this section shall terminate on September 30, 2015. Any amounts made available for the program that remain available for obligation on the date the program terminates may be transferred under subsection (e) during the 180-day period beginning on the date of the termination of the program.”

[§ 2359a. Repealed. Pub. L. 112–81, div. A, title II, § 251(a)(1), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1347]

Section, added Pub. L. 107–314, div. A, title II, § 242(a)(1), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2494; amended Pub. L. 109–163, div. A, title II, § 255(a), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3180; Pub. L. 109–364, div. A, title X, § 1071(a)(2), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2398; Pub. L. 110–181, div. A, title II, § 233, Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 46; Pub. L. 110–417, [div. A], title II, § 253(b), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4402, related to Technology Transition Initiative.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF REPEAL

Pub. L. 112–81, div. A, title II, § 251(b), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1347, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [repealing this section] shall take effect on October 1, 2013.”

§ 2359b. Defense Acquisition Challenge Program

(a) PROGRAM REQUIRED.—(1) The Secretary of Defense, acting through the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, shall carry out a program to provide opportunities for the increased introduction of innovative and cost-saving technology in acquisition programs of the Department of Defense.

(2) The program, to be known as the Defense Acquisition Challenge Program (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Challenge Program”), shall provide any person or activity within or outside the Department of Defense with the opportunity to propose alternatives, to be known as challenge proposals, at the component, subsystem, or system level of an existing Department of Defense acquisition program that would result in improvements in performance, affordability, manufacturability, or operational capability of that acquisition program.

(b) PANELS.—The Under Secretary shall establish one or more panels of highly qualified scientists and engineers (hereinafter in this section referred to as “Panels”) to provide preliminary evaluations of challenge proposals under subsection (c).

(c) PRELIMINARY EVALUATION BY PANELS.—(1) Under procedures prescribed by the Under Secretary, a person or activity within or outside the Department of Defense may submit challenge proposals to a Panel, through the unsolic-

ited proposal process or in response to a broad agency announcement.

(2) The Under Secretary shall establish procedures pursuant to which appropriate officials of the Department of Defense may identify proposals submitted through the unsolicited proposal process as challenge proposals. The procedures shall provide for the expeditious referral of such proposals to a Panel for preliminary evaluation under this subsection.

(3) The Under Secretary shall issue on an annual basis not less than one such broad agency announcement inviting interested parties to submit challenge proposals. Such announcements may also identify particular technology areas and acquisition programs that will be given priority in the evaluation of challenge proposals.

(4)(A) The Under Secretary shall establish procedures for the prompt issuance of a solicitation for challenge proposals addressing—

(i) any acquisition program for which, since the last such announcement, the Secretary concerned has determined under section 2433(d) of this title that the program’s acquisition unit cost or procurement unit cost has increased by a percentage equal to or greater than the critical cost growth threshold for the program (in this section referred to as a “critical cost growth threshold breach”); and

(ii) any design, engineering, manufacturing, or technology integration issues, in accordance with the assessment required by section 2433(e)(2)(A) of this title, that have contributed significantly to the cost growth of such program.

(B) A solicitation under this paragraph may be included in a broad agency announcement issued pursuant to paragraph (3) as long as the broad agency announcement is released in an expeditious manner following the determination of the Secretary concerned that a critical cost growth threshold breach has occurred with respect to a major defense acquisition program.

(5) Under procedures established by the Under Secretary, a Panel shall carry out a preliminary evaluation of each challenge proposal submitted in response to a broad agency announcement, or submitted through the unsolicited proposal process and identified as a challenge proposal in accordance with paragraph (2), to determine each of the following:

(A) Whether the challenge proposal has merit.

(B) Whether the challenge proposal is likely to result in improvements in performance, affordability, manufacturability, or operational capability at the component, subsystem, or system level of an acquisition program.

(C) Whether the challenge proposal could be implemented in the acquisition program rapidly, at an acceptable cost, and without unacceptable disruption to the acquisition program.

(6) The Under Secretary—

(A) may establish procedures to ensure that the Challenge Program does not become an avenue for the repetitive submission of proposals that have been previously reviewed and found not to have merit; and