

111–84, div. A, title IX, §911(a)(1)–(3), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2428, 2429; Pub. L. 111–383, div. A, title IX, §901(j)(2), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4324; Pub. L. 114–92, div. A, title XVI, §1604, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1098.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2272, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 124, related to contracts to obtain designs submitted in design competitions, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103–160, div. A, title VIII, §821(a)(1), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1704.

AMENDMENTS

2015—Pub. L. 114–92 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section consisted of subsecs. (a) to (c) relating to space science and technology strategy, required coordination, and definitions.

2011—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 111–383 substituted “Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering” for “Director of Defense Research and Engineering” wherever appearing.

2009—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 111–84, §911(a)(1), substituted “The Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall jointly develop” for “The Secretary of Defense shall develop”.

Subsec. (a)(2)(D). Pub. L. 111–84, §911(a)(2), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 111–84, §911(a)(3), amended par. (5) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (5) read as follows: “The strategy shall be available for review by the congressional defense committees.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2011 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111–383 effective Jan. 1, 2011, see section 901(p) of Pub. L. 111–383, set out as a note under section 131 of this title.

INITIAL REPORT

Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title IX, §911(a)(4), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2429, required the first space science and technology strategy required to be submitted under former 10 U.S.C. 2272(a)(5) to be submitted on the date on which the President submitted to Congress the budget for fiscal year 2012 under 31 U.S.C. 1105.

§ 2273. Policy regarding assured access to space: national security payloads

(a) **POLICY.**—It is the policy of the United States for the President to undertake actions appropriate to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the United States has the capabilities necessary to launch and insert United States national security payloads into space whenever such payloads are needed in space.

(b) **INCLUDED ACTIONS.**—The appropriate actions referred to in subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, providing resources and policy guidance to sustain—

(1) the availability of at least two space launch vehicles (or families of space launch vehicles) capable of delivering into space any payload designated by the Secretary of Defense or the Director of National Intelligence as a national security payload; and

(2) a robust space launch infrastructure and industrial base.

(c) **COORDINATION.**—The Secretary of Defense shall, to the maximum extent practicable, pursue the attainment of the capabilities described in subsection (a) in coordination with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(Added Pub. L. 108–136, div. A, title IX, §912(a)(1), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1565; Pub. L. 110–181, div.

A, title IX, §931(a)(12), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 285; Pub. L. 110–417, [div. A], title IX, §932(a)(11), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4576; Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title X, §1073(c)(10), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2475.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2273, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 125; Apr. 2, 1982, Pub. L. 97–164, title I, §160(a)(4), 96 Stat. 48; Oct. 29, 1992, Pub. L. 102–572, title IX, §902(b)(1), 106 Stat. 4516, related to right of United States to designs, rights of designers to patents, and rights to sue United States, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103–160, div. A, title VIII, §821(a)(1), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1704.

AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 111–84 repealed Pub. L. 110–417, §932(a)(11). See 2008 Amendment note below.

2008—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 110–181 and Pub. L. 110–417, §932(a)(11), amended par. (1) identically, substituting “Director of National Intelligence” for “Director of Central Intelligence”. Pub. L. 110–417, §932(a)(11), was repealed by Pub. L. 111–84.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2009 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title X, §1073(c), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2474, provided that the amendment made by section 1073(c)(10) is effective as of Oct. 14, 2008, and as if included in Pub. L. 110–417 as enacted.

ACQUISITION STRATEGY FOR EVOLVED EXPENDABLE LAUNCH VEHICLE PROGRAM

Pub. L. 114–92, div. A, title XVI, §1608, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1100, provided that:

“(a) **TREATMENT OF CERTAIN ARRANGEMENT.**—

“(1) **DISCONTINUATION.**—The Secretary of the Air Force shall discontinue the evolved expendable launch vehicle launch capability arrangement, as structured as of the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 25, 2015], for—

“(A) existing contracts using rocket engines designed or manufactured in the Russian Federation by not later than December 31, 2019; and

“(B) existing contracts using domestic rocket engines by not later than December 31, 2020.

“(2) **WAIVER.**—The Secretary may waive paragraph (1) if the Secretary—

“(A) determines that such waiver is necessary for the national security interests of the United States;

“(B) notifies the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] of such waiver; and

“(C) a period of 90 days has elapsed following the date of such notification.

“(b) **CONSISTENT STANDARDS.**—In accordance with section 2306a of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary shall—

“(1) apply consistent and appropriate standards to certified evolved expendable launch vehicle providers with respect to certified cost and pricing data; and

“(2) conduct the appropriate audits.

“(c) **ACQUISITION STRATEGY.**—In accordance with subsections (a) and (b) and section 2273 of title 10, United States Code, the Secretary shall develop and carry out a 10-year phased acquisition strategy, including near and long term, for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program.

“(d) **ELEMENTS.**—The acquisition strategy under subsection (c) for the evolved expendable launch vehicle program shall—

“(1) provide the necessary—

“(A) stability in budgeting and acquisition of capabilities;

“(B) flexibility to the Federal Government; and

“(C) procedures for fair competition; and

“(2) specifically take into account, as appropriate per competition, the effect of—

“(A) contracts or agreements for launch services or launch capability entered into by the Department of Defense and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration with certified evolved expendable launch vehicle providers;

“(B) the requirements of the Department of Defense, including with respect to launch capabilities and pricing data, that are met by such providers;

“(C) the cost of integrating a satellite onto a launch vehicle; and

“(D) any other matters the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(e) COMPETITION.—In awarding any contract for launch services in a national security space mission pursuant to a competitive acquisition, the evaluation shall account for the value of the evolved expendable launch vehicle launch capability arrangement per contract line item numbers in the bid price of the offeror as appropriate per launch.

“(f) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate a report on the acquisition strategy developed under subsection (c).”

ROCKET PROPULSION SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Pub. L. 113–291, div. A, title XVI, § 1604, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3623, as amended by Pub. L. 114–92, div. A, title XVI, § 1606(a), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1099, provided that:

“(a) DEVELOPMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a next-generation rocket propulsion system that enables the effective, efficient, and expedient transition from the use of non-allied space launch engines to a domestic alternative for national security space launches.

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The system developed under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) be made in the United States;

“(B) meet the requirements of the national security space community;

“(C) be developed by not later than 2019;

“(D) be developed using full and open competition; and

“(E) be available for purchase by all space launch providers of the United States.

“(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 19, 2014], the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

“(1) a plan to carry out the development of the rocket propulsion system under subsection (a), including an analysis of the benefits of using public-private partnerships;

“(2) the requirements of the program to develop such system; and

“(3) the estimated cost of such system.

“(c) STREAMLINED ACQUISITION.—In developing the rocket propulsion system required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

“(1) use a streamlined acquisition approach, including tailored documentation and review processes, that enables the effective, efficient, and expedient transition from the use of non-allied space launch engines to a domestic alternative for national security space launches; and

“(2) prior to establishing such acquisition approach, establish well-defined requirements with a clear acquisition strategy.

“(d) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means the following:

“(1) The congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives].

“(2) The Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate.”

§ 2273a. Operationally Responsive Space Program Office

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is within the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center of the Department of Defense a joint program office known as the Operationally Responsive Space Program Office (in this section referred to as the “Office”). The facilities of the Office may not be co-located with the headquarters facilities of the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center.

(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The head of the Office shall be the designee of the Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space. The head of the Office shall report to the Commander of the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center.

(c) MISSION.—The mission of the Office shall be—

(1) to contribute to the development of low-cost, rapid reaction payloads, busses, launch, and launch control capabilities in order to fulfill joint military operational requirements for on-demand space support and reconstitution; and

(2) to coordinate and execute operationally responsive space efforts across the Department of Defense with respect to planning, acquisition, and operations.

(d) ELEMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall select the elements of the Department of Defense to be included in the Office so as to contribute to the development of capabilities for operationally responsive space and to achieve a balanced representation of the military departments in the Office to ensure proper acknowledgment of joint considerations in the activities of the Office, except that the Office shall include the following:

(1) A science and technology element that shall pursue innovative approaches to the development of capabilities for operationally responsive space through basic and applied research focused on (but not limited to) payloads, bus, and launch equipment.

(2) An acquisition element that shall undertake the acquisition of systems necessary to integrate, sustain, and launch assets for operationally responsive space.

(3) An operations element that shall—

(A) sustain and maintain assets for operationally responsive space prior to launch;

(B) integrate and launch such assets; and

(C) operate such assets in orbit.

(4) A combatant command support element that shall serve as the primary intermediary between the military departments and the combatant commands in order to—

(A) ascertain the needs of the commanders of the combatant commands; and

(B) integrate operationally responsive space capabilities into—

(i) operations plans of the combatant commands;

(ii) techniques, tactics, and procedures of the military departments; and

(iii) military exercises, demonstrations, and war games.

(5) Such other elements as the Secretary of Defense may consider necessary.

(e) ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—The acquisition activities of the Office shall be subject to the following: