

Secretary of the Air Force is responsible for, and has the authority necessary to conduct, all affairs of the Department of the Air Force, including the following functions:

- (1) Recruiting.
- (2) Organizing.
- (3) Supplying.
- (4) Equipping (including research and development).
- (5) Training.
- (6) Servicing.
- (7) Mobilizing.
- (8) Demobilizing.
- (9) Administering (including the morale and welfare of personnel).
- (10) Maintaining.
- (11) The construction, outfitting, and repair of military equipment.
- (12) The construction, maintenance, and repair of buildings, structures, and utilities and the acquisition of real property and interests in real property necessary to carry out the responsibilities specified in this section.

(c) Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Air Force is also responsible to the Secretary of Defense for—

- (1) the functioning and efficiency of the Department of the Air Force;
- (2) the formulation of policies and programs by the Department of the Air Force that are fully consistent with national security objectives and policies established by the President or the Secretary of Defense;
- (3) the effective and timely implementation of policy, program, and budget decisions and instructions of the President or the Secretary of Defense relating to the functions of the Department of the Air Force;
- (4) carrying out the functions of the Department of the Air Force so as to fulfill the current and future operational requirements of the unified and specified combatant commands;
- (5) effective cooperation and coordination between the Department of the Air Force and the other military departments and agencies of the Department of Defense to provide for more effective, efficient, and economical administration and to eliminate duplication;
- (6) the presentation and justification of the positions of the Department of the Air Force on the plans, programs, and policies of the Department of Defense; and
- (7) the effective supervision and control of the intelligence activities of the Department of the Air Force.

(d) The Secretary of the Air Force is also responsible for such other activities as may be prescribed by law or by the President or Secretary of Defense.

(e) After first informing the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Air Force may make such recommendations to Congress relating to the Department of Defense as he considers appropriate.

(f) The Secretary of the Air Force may assign such of his functions, powers, and duties as he considers appropriate to the Under Secretary of the Air Force and to the Assistant Secretaries of

the Air Force. Officers of the Air Force shall, as directed by the Secretary, report on any matter to the Secretary, the Under Secretary, or any Assistant Secretary.

(g) The Secretary of the Air Force may—

- (1) assign, detail, and prescribe the duties of members of the Air Force and civilian personnel of the Department of the Air Force;
- (2) change the title of any officer or activity of the Department of the Air Force not prescribed by law; and
- (3) prescribe regulations to carry out his functions, powers, and duties under this title.

(Added Pub. L. 99-433, title V, §521(a)(3), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1055; amended Pub. L. 99-661, div. A, title V, §534, Nov. 14, 1986, 100 Stat. 3873; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title IX, §901, Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1558; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title IX, §931(c), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2363.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8013, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 488, §8012; Sept. 2, 1958, Pub. L. 85-861, §1(152), 72 Stat. 1513; Sept. 7, 1962, Pub. L. 87-651, title II, §211, 76 Stat. 524; Aug. 14, 1964, Pub. L. 88-426, title III, §305(7), 306(j)(7), 78 Stat. 423, 432; renumbered §8013, Oct. 1, 1986, Pub. L. 99-433, title V, §521(a)(1), 100 Stat. 1055, related to Secretary of the Air Force, powers and duties, and delegations, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 99-433, §521(a)(3).

Another prior section 8013 was renumbered section 8014 of this title and subsequently repealed.

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 114-328 inserted “The Secretary shall, to the greatest extent practicable, be appointed from among persons most highly qualified for the position by reason of background and experience, including persons with appropriate management or leadership experience.” after first sentence.

2003—Subsec. (c)(4). Pub. L. 108-136 struck out “(to the maximum extent practicable)” after “fulfill”.

1986—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 99-661 substituted “five years” for “10 years”.

#### ORDER OF SUCCESSION

For order of succession in event of death, permanent disability, or resignation of Secretary of the Air Force, see Ex. Ord. No. 12909, Apr. 22, 1994, 59 F.R. 21909, listed in a table under section 3345 of Title 5.

#### RATING CHAINS FOR SYSTEM PROGRAM MANAGERS

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title III, §323, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1696, provided that: “The Secretary of the Air Force, in managing system program management responsibilities for sustainment programs not assigned to a program executive officer or a direct reporting program manager, shall comply with the Department of Defense Instructions regarding assignment of program responsibility.”

#### § 8014. Office of the Secretary of the Air Force

(a) There is in the Department of the Air Force an Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. The function of the Office is to assist the Secretary of the Air Force in carrying out his responsibilities.

(b) The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force is composed of the following:

- (1) The Under Secretary of the Air Force.
- (2) The Assistant Secretaries of the Air Force.
- (3) The General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.
- (4) The Inspector General of the Air Force.

(5) The Chief of Legislative Liaison.

(6) The Air Reserve Forces Policy Committee.

(7) Such other offices and officials as may be established by law or as the Secretary of the Air Force may establish or designate.

(c)(1) The Office of the Secretary of the Air Force shall have sole responsibility within the Office of the Secretary and the Air Staff for the following functions:

(A) Acquisition.

(B) Auditing.

(C) Comptroller (including financial management).

(D) Information management.

(E) Inspector General.

(F) Legislative affairs.

(G) Public affairs.

(2) The Secretary of the Air Force shall establish or designate a single office or other entity within the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force to conduct each function specified in paragraph (1). No office or other entity may be established or designated within the Air Staff to conduct any of the functions specified in paragraph (1).

(3) The Secretary shall prescribe the relationship of each office or other entity established or designated under paragraph (2) to the Chief of Staff and to the Air Staff and shall ensure that each such office or entity provides the Chief of Staff such staff support as the Chief of Staff considers necessary to perform his duties and responsibilities.

(4) The vesting in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force of the responsibility for the conduct of a function specified in paragraph (1) does not preclude other elements of the executive part of the Department of the Air Force (including the Air Staff) from providing advice or assistance to the Chief of Staff or otherwise participating in that function within the executive part of the Department under the direction of the office assigned responsibility for that function in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force.

(5) The head of the office or other entity established or designated by the Secretary to conduct the auditing function shall have at least five years of professional experience in accounting or auditing. The position shall be considered to be a career reserved position as defined in section 3132(a)(8) of title 5.

(d)(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force shall have sole responsibility within the Office of the Secretary and the Air Staff for the function of research and development.

(2) The Secretary of the Air Force may assign to the Air Staff responsibility for those aspects of the function of research and development that relate to military requirements and test and evaluation.

(3) The Secretary shall establish or designate a single office or other entity within the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force to conduct the function specified in paragraph (1).

(4) The Secretary shall prescribe the relationship of the office or other entity established or designated under paragraph (3) to the Chief of

Staff of the Air Force and to the Air Staff and shall ensure that each such office or entity provides the Chief of Staff such staff support as the Chief of Staff considers necessary to perform his duties and responsibilities.

(e) The Secretary of the Air Force shall ensure that the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and the Air Staff do not duplicate specific functions for which the Secretary has assigned responsibility to the other.

(f)(1) The total number of members of the armed forces and civilian employees of the Department of the Air Force assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and on the Air Staff may not exceed 2,639.

(2) Not more than 1,585 officers of the Air Force on the active-duty list may be assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and on the Air Staff.

(3) The total number of general officers assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force and on the Air Staff may not exceed 60.

(4) The limitations in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) do not apply in time of war.

(5) Each limitation in paragraphs (1) and (2) may be exceeded by a number equal to 15 percent of such limitation in time of national emergency.

(Added Pub. L. 99-433, title V, §521(a)(3), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1057; amended Pub. L. 100-180, div. A, title XIII, §1314(b)(7), Dec. 4, 1987, 101 Stat. 1175; Pub. L. 100-456, div. A, title III, §325(c), Sept. 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 1955; Pub. L. 101-189, div. A, title VI, §652(a)(4), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1461; Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title X, §1048(a)(29), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1225; Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title V, §504(e)(2), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2533; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title IX, §903(e), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2344.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8014, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 489, §8013; Aug. 6, 1958, Pub. L. 85-599, §8(c), 72 Stat. 520; Sept. 2, 1958, Pub. L. 85-861, §1(153), 72 Stat. 1513; Aug. 14, 1964, Pub. L. 88-426, title III, §305(8), 78 Stat. 423; Dec. 1, 1967, Pub. L. 90-168, §2(15), 81 Stat. 523; Nov. 9, 1979, Pub. L. 96-107, title VIII, §820(d), 93 Stat. 819; renumbered §8014, Oct. 1, 1986, Pub. L. 99-433, title V, §521(a)(1), 100 Stat. 1055, related to Under Secretary and Assistant Secretaries of the Air Force, appointment, and duties, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 99-433, §521(a)(3).

Another prior section 8014 was renumbered section 8015 of this title and subsequently repealed.

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (f)(4). Pub. L. 114-328, §903(e)(1), substituted “time of war.” for “time of war or during a national emergency declared by the President or Congress. The limitation in paragraph (2) does not apply whenever the President determines that it is in the national interest to increase the number of officers assigned or detailed to permanent duty in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force or on the Air Staff.”

Subsec. (f)(5). Pub. L. 114-328, §903(e)(2), added par. (5).  
2002—Subsec. (b)(5) to (7). Pub. L. 107-314 added par. (5) and redesignated former pars. (5) and (6) as (6) and (7), respectively.

2001—Subsec. (f)(3). Pub. L. 107-107 substituted “60” for “the number equal to 85 percent of the number of general officers assigned or detailed to such duty on the date of the enactment of this subsection”.

1989—Subsec. (f)(5). Pub. L. 101-189 struck out par. (5) which read as follows: “The limitations in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) do not apply before October 1, 1988.”

1988—Subsec. (c)(5). Pub. L. 100-456 added par. (5).

1987—Subsec. (f)(4). Pub. L. 100-180 inserted “the President or” after “declared by”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Requirements of subsec. (c)(5) of this section applicable with respect to any person appointed on or after Sept. 29, 1988, as head of office or other entity designated for conducting auditing function in a military department, see section 325(d)(1) of Pub. L. 100-456, set out as a note under section 5014 of this title.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Subsecs. (c) and (d) of this section to be implemented not later than 180 days after Oct. 1, 1986, see section 532(a) of Pub. L. 99-433, set out as a note under section 3014 of this title.

#### EXCEPTIONS AND ADJUSTMENTS TO LIMITATIONS ON PERSONNEL

Baseline personnel limitations in this section inapplicable to certain acquisition personnel and personnel hired pursuant to a shortage category designation for fiscal year 2009 and fiscal years thereafter, and Secretary of Defense or a secretary of a military department authorized to adjust such limitations for fiscal year 2009 and fiscal years thereafter, see section 1111 of Pub. L. 110-417, set out as a note under section 143 of this title.

### § 8015. Under Secretary of the Air Force

(a) There is an Under Secretary of the Air Force, appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) The Under Secretary shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Secretary of the Air Force may prescribe.

(Added Pub. L. 99-433, title V, § 521(a)(3), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1058.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 8013 of this title prior to enactment of Pub. L. 99-433.

A prior section 8015, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 489, § 8014; renumbered § 8015, Oct. 1, 1986, Pub. L. 99-433, title V, § 521(a)(1), 100 Stat. 1055, related to Comptroller and Deputy Comptroller of the Air Force, powers and duties, and appointment, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 99-433, § 521(a)(3).

#### ORDER OF SUCCESSION

For order of succession in event of death, permanent disability, or resignation of Secretary of the Air Force, see Ex. Ord. No. 12909, Apr. 22, 1994, 59 F.R. 21909, listed in a table under section 3345 of Title 5.

### § 8016. Assistant Secretaries of the Air Force

(a) There are four Assistant Secretaries of the Air Force. They shall be appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b)(1) The Assistant Secretaries shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Secretary of the Air Force may prescribe.

(2) One of the Assistant Secretaries shall be the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. He shall have as his principal duty the overall supervision of manpower and reserve component affairs of the Department of the Air Force.

(3) One of the Assistant Secretaries shall be the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management. The Assistant Secretary shall have as his principal responsibility the exercise of the comptroller functions of the Department of the Air Force, including financial management functions. The Assistant Secretary shall be responsible for all financial management activities and operations of the Department of the Air Force and shall advise the Secretary of the Air Force on financial management.

(4)(A) One of the Assistant Secretaries shall be the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics. The principal duty of the Assistant Secretary shall be the overall supervision of acquisition, technology, and logistics matters of the Department of the Air Force.

(B) The Assistant Secretary shall have a Principal Military Deputy, who shall be an officer of the Air Force on active duty. The Principal Military Deputy shall be appointed from among officers who have significant experience in the areas of acquisition and program management. The position of Principal Military Deputy shall be designated as a critical acquisition position under section 1733 of this title. In the event of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, the Principal Military Deputy may serve as Acting Assistant Secretary for a period of not more than one year.

(Added Pub. L. 99-433, title V, § 521(a)(3), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1058; amended Pub. L. 100-456, div. A, title VII, § 702(c)[(1)], (d), Sept. 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 1995, 1996; Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title IX, § 908(c), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 278; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, § 502(ii), title VIII, § 802(c), title IX, § 934(a), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2105, 2249, 2365.)

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in section 3013 of this title prior to enactment of Pub. L. 99-433.

#### AMENDMENTS

2016—Subsec. (b)(4)(A). Pub. L. 114-328, § 934(a), substituted “Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics” for “Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition” and inserted “, technology, and logistics” after “acquisition”.

Subsec. (b)(4)(B). Pub. L. 114-328, § 802(c), inserted at end “In the event of a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition, the Principal Military Deputy may serve as Acting Assistant Secretary for a period of not more than one year.”

Pub. L. 114-328, § 502(ii), substituted “an officer” for “a lieutenant general”.

2008—Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 110-181 added par. (4).

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-456, § 702(d), substituted “four” for “three”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 100-456, § 702(c)[(1)], added par. (3).

#### CHANGE OF NAME

Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title IX, § 934(b), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2365, provided that: “Any reference to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition in any law, regulation, map, document, record, or other paper of the United States shall be deemed to be a ref-