

**CHAPTER 98—NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

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**§ 9801. Definitions**

For purposes of this chapter—

(1) the term “Administration” means the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(2) the term “Administrator” means the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(3) the term “critical need” means a specific and important safety, management, engineering, science, research, or operations requirement of the Administration’s mission that the Administration is unable to fulfill because the Administration lacks the appropriate employees because—

(A) of the inability to fill positions; or

(B) employees do not possess the requisite skills;

(4) the term “employee” means an individual employed in or under the Administration;

(5) the term “workforce plan” means the plan required under section 9802(a);

(6) the term “appropriate committees of Congress” means—

(A) the Committees on Government Reform, Science, and Appropriations of the House of Representatives; and

(B) the Committees on Governmental Affairs, Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and Appropriations of the Senate;

(7) the term “redesignation bonus” means a bonus under section 9804 paid to an individual described in subsection (a)(2) thereof;

(8) the term “supervisor” has the meaning given such term by section 7103(a)(10); and

(9) the term “management official” has the meaning given such term by section 7103(a)(11).

(Added Pub. L. 108–201, §3(a), Feb. 24, 2004, 118 Stat. 461.)

**CHANGE OF NAME**

Committee on Government Reform of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Oversight and Government Reform of House of Representatives and Committee on Science of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 6, One Hundred Tenth Congress, Jan. 5, 2007. Committee

on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

Committee on Governmental Affairs of Senate changed to Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of Senate, effective Jan. 4, 2005, by Senate Resolution No. 445, One Hundred Eighth Congress, Oct. 9, 2004.

**§ 9802. Planning, notification, and reporting requirements**

(a) Not later than 90 days before exercising any of the workforce authorities made available under this chapter, the Administrator shall submit a written plan to the appropriate committees of Congress. Such plan shall be approved by the Office of Personnel Management.

(b) A workforce plan shall include a description of—

(1) each critical need of the Administration and the criteria used in the identification of that need;

(2)(A) the functions, approximate number, and classes or other categories of positions or employees that—

(i) address critical needs; and

(ii) would be eligible for each authority proposed to be exercised under this chapter; and

(B) how the exercise of those authorities with respect to the eligible positions or employees involved would address each critical need identified under paragraph (1);

(3)(A) any critical need identified under paragraph (1) which would not be addressed by the authorities made available under this chapter; and

(B) the reasons why those needs would not be so addressed;

(4) the specific criteria to be used in determining which individuals may receive the benefits described under sections 9804 and 9805 (including the criteria for granting bonuses in the absence of a critical need), and how the level of those benefits will be determined;

(5) the safeguards or other measures that will be applied to ensure that this chapter is carried out in a manner consistent with merit system principles;

(6) the means by which employees will be afforded the notification required under subsections (c) and (d)(1)(B);

(7) the methods that will be used to determine if the authorities exercised under this chapter have successfully addressed each critical need identified under paragraph (1);

(8)(A) the recruitment methods used by the Administration before the enactment of this chapter to recruit highly qualified individuals; and

(B) the changes the Administration will implement after the enactment of this chapter in order to improve its recruitment of highly qualified individuals, including how it intends to use—

(i) nongovernmental recruitment or placement agencies; and

(ii) Internet technologies; and

(9) any workforce-related reforms required to resolve the findings and recommendations