

2017—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115–91, §1002(f)(2)(A), substituted “of this title” for “of title 10, United States Code,” and struck out “, as soon as practicable,” after “develop”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115–91, §1002(f)(2)(B), substituted “deployment of technologies and services as described in subsection (a)” for “this deployment”.

#### **§ 240f. Audits: selection of service providers for audit services**

The Department of Defense shall select service providers for auditing services based on the best value to the Department, as determined by the resource sponsor for an auditing contract, rather than based on the lowest price technically acceptable service provider.

(Added and amended Pub. L. 115–91, div. A, title X, §1002(g)(1), (2), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1542, §254b; renumbered §240f, Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title X, §1002(a)(1)(A), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1945.)

#### CODIFICATION

Text of section, as added by Pub. L. 115–91, is based on text of section 892 of Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title VIII, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2324, which was formerly set out as a note under section 2331 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 115–91, div. A, title X, §1002(g)(3), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1542.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–232 renumbered section 254b of this title as this section.

2017—Pub. L. 115–91, §1002(g)(2), struck out “and audit readiness services” after “auditing services”.

#### NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENT FOR CERTAIN CONTRACTS FOR AUDIT SERVICES

Pub. L. 115–91, div. A, title X, §1007, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1545, provided that:

“(a) NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.—If the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) makes a written finding that a delay in performance of a covered contract while a protest is pending would hinder the annual preparation of audited financial statements for the Department of Defense, and the head of the procuring activity responsible for the award of the covered contract does not authorize the award of the contract (pursuant to section 3553(c)(2) of title 31, United States Code) or the performance of the contract (pursuant to section 3553(d)(3)(C) of such title), the Secretary of Defense shall—

“(1) notify the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] within 10 days after such finding is made; and

“(2) describe any steps the Department of Defense plans to take to mitigate any hindrance identified in such finding to the annual preparation of audited financial statements for the Department.

“(b) COVERED CONTRACT DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered contract’ means a contract for services to perform an audit to comply with the requirements of section 3515 of title 31, United States Code.”

#### **§ 240g. Defense Business Audit Remediation Plan**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall maintain a plan, to be known as the “Defense Business Systems Audit Remediation Plan”. Such plan shall include a current accounting of the defense business systems of the Department of Defense that will be introduced, replaced, updated, modified, or retired in connection with the audit of the full financial statements of the Department, including a comprehensive roadmap that displays—

(1) in-service, retirement, and other pertinent dates for affected defense business systems;

(2) current cost-to-complete estimates for each affected defense business system; and

(3) dependencies both between the various defense business systems and between the introduction, replacement, update, modification, and retirement of such systems.

#### (b) REPORT AND BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than June 30, 2020, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees an updated report on the Defense Business Systems Audit Remediation Plan under subsection (a).

(2) SEMIANNUAL BRIEFINGS.—Not later than January 31 and June 30 each year, the Secretary shall provide to the congressional defense committees a briefing on the status of the Defense Business Systems Audit Remediation Plan. Such briefing shall include a description of any updates to the defense business systems roadmap referred to in subsection (a).

(c) DEFENSE BUSINESS SYSTEM.—In this section, the term “defense business system” has the meaning given such term in section 2222(i)(1)(A) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title X, §1002(a), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1570.)

#### **§ 240h. Annual report on auditable financial statements**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than January 30 of each year, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that includes a ranking of all of the military departments and Defense Agencies in order of how advanced each such department and Agency is in achieving auditable financial statements, as required by law. In preparing the report, the Secretary shall seek to exclude information that is otherwise available in other reports to Congress.

(b) BOTTOM QUARTILE.—Not later than June 30 of each year, the head of each of the military departments and Defense Agencies that were ranked in the bottom quartile of the report submitted under subsection (a) for that year shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report that includes the following information for that military department or Defense Agency:

(1) A description of the material weaknesses of the military department or Defense Agency.

(2) The underlying causes of such weaknesses.

(3) A plan for remediating such weaknesses.

(4) The total number of open audit notices of findings and recommendations (hereinafter referred to as “NFRs”) for the most recently concluded fiscal year and the preceding two fiscal years, where applicable.

(5) The number of repeat or reissued NFRs from the most recently concluded fiscal year.

(6) The number of NFRs that were previously forecasted to be closed during the most recently concluded fiscal year that remain open.

(7) The number of closed NFRs during the current fiscal year and prior fiscal years.