

(2) help ensure that emergency response providers can communicate with each other in the event of natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters;

(3) provide technical assistance to enable emergency response providers to deal with threats and contingencies in a variety of environments;

(4) identify appropriate joint-use equipment to ensure communications access;

(5) identify solutions to facilitate communications between emergency response providers in communities of differing population densities; and

(6) take other actions or provide equipment as the Assistant Director deems appropriate to foster interoperable emergency communications.

**(d) Distribution of funds**

**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall distribute funds under this section to each community participating in the demonstration project through the State, or States, in which each community is located.

**(2) Other participants**

A State shall make the funds available promptly to the local and tribal governments and emergency response providers selected by the Secretary to participate in the demonstration project.

**(3) Report**

Not later than 90 days after a State receives funds under this subsection the State shall report to the Assistant Director on the status of the distribution of such funds to local and tribal governments.

**(e) Maximum period of grants**

The Assistant Director may not fund any participant under the demonstration project for more than 3 years.

**(f) Transfer of information and knowledge**

The Assistant Director shall establish mechanisms to ensure that the information and knowledge gained by participants in the demonstration project are transferred among the participants and to other interested parties, including other communities that submitted applications to the participant in the project.

**(g) Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated for grants under this section such sums as may be necessary.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title XVIII, §1810, as added Pub. L. 110-53, title III, §302(a), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 300; amended Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(6)(D), Nov. 16, 2018, 132 Stat. 4180.)

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(6)(D)(iii), substituted “Assistant Director” for “Director” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(6)(D)(i), substituted “Assistant Director for Emergency Communications (referred to in this section as the ‘Assistant Director’)” for “Director of the Office of Emergency Communications (referred to in this section as the ‘Director’)”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115-278, §2(g)(6)(D)(ii), substituted “Emergency Communications Division” for “Office of Emergency Communications” in introductory provisions.

**SUBCHAPTER XIV—COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE**

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 115-387, §2(a)(1), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5162, substituted “COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE” for “DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DESTRUCTION OFFICE” in subchapter heading.

This subchapter is comprised of title XIX, formerly title XVIII, of Pub. L. 107-296, as added by Pub. L. 109-347, title V, §501(a), Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1932, and renumbered title XIX by Pub. L. 110-53, title I, §104(a)(1), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 294.

**§ 590. Definitions**

In this subchapter:

**(1) Assistant Secretary**

The term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office.

**(2) Intelligence community**

The term “intelligence community” has the meaning given such term in section 3003(4) of title 50.

**(3) Office**

The term “Office” means the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office established under section 591(a) of this title.

**(4) Weapon of mass destruction**

The term “weapon of mass destruction” has the meaning given the term in section 1801 of title 50.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title XIX, §1900, as added Pub. L. 115-387, §2(a)(2), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5162.)

PART A—COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE

**§ 591. Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office**

**(a) Establishment**

There is established in the Department a Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office.

**(b) Assistant Secretary**

The Office shall be headed by an Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, who shall be appointed by the President.

**(c) Responsibilities**

The Assistant Secretary shall serve as the Secretary’s principal advisor on—

(1) weapons of mass destruction matters and strategies; and

(2) coordinating the efforts of the Department to counter weapons of mass destruction.

**(d) Details**

The Secretary may request that the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and the heads of other Federal agencies, including elements of the intelligence community, provide for the