

§ 2546a. Customer-oriented acquisition system

(a) OBJECTIVE.—It shall be the objective of the defense acquisition system to meet the needs of its customers in the most cost-effective manner practicable. The acquisition policies, directives, and regulations of the Department of Defense shall be modified as necessary to ensure the development and implementation of a customer-oriented acquisition system.

(b) CUSTOMER.—The customer of the defense acquisition system is the armed force that will have primary responsibility for fielding the system or systems acquired. The customer is represented with regard to a major defense acquisition program by the Secretary of the military department concerned and the Chief of the armed force concerned.

(c) ROLE OF CUSTOMER.—The customer of a major defense acquisition program shall be responsible for balancing resources against priorities on the acquisition program and ensuring that appropriate trade-offs are made among cost, schedule, technical feasibility, and performance on a continuing basis throughout the life of the acquisition program.

(Added Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title VIII, § 802(a)(1), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 878.)

TRANSFER OF SECTION

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVIII, §§ 1801(d), 1808(a)(2), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4151, 4159, provided that, effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, this section, as part of chapter 205 of this title as transferred and redesignated by section 1808(a)(1) of Pub. L. 116-283, is redesignated as section 3102 of this title. See Effective Date of 2021 Amendment note below.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2021 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 116-283 effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, see section 1801(d) of Pub. L. 116-283, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 2547. Acquisition-related functions of chiefs of the armed forces

(a) PERFORMANCE OF CERTAIN ACQUISITION-RELATED FUNCTIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the Chief of Staff of the Army, the Chief of Naval Operations, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the Chief of Space Operations assist the Secretary of the military department concerned in the performance of the following acquisition-related functions of such department:

(1) The development of requirements for equipping the armed force concerned (subject, where appropriate, to validation by the Joint Requirements Oversight Council pursuant to section 181 of this title).

(2) Decisions regarding the balancing of resources and priorities, and associated trade-offs among cost, schedule, technical feasibility, and performance on major defense acquisition programs.

(3) The coordination of measures to control requirements creep in the defense acquisition system.

(4) The recommendation of trade-offs among life-cycle cost, schedule, and performance objectives, and procurement quantity objectives, to ensure acquisition programs deliver best value in meeting the approved military requirements.

(5) Termination of development or procurement programs for which life-cycle cost, schedule, and performance expectations are no longer consistent with approved military requirements and levels of priority, or which no longer have approved military requirements.

(6) The development and management of career paths in acquisition for military personnel (as required by section 1722a of this title).

(7) The assignment and training of contracting officer representatives when such representatives are required to be members of the armed forces because of the nature of the contract concerned.

(b) ADHERENCE TO REQUIREMENTS IN MAJOR DEFENSE ACQUISITION PROGRAMS.—(1) The Secretary of the military department concerned shall ensure that the program capability document supporting a Milestone B or subsequent decision for a major defense acquisition program may not be approved until the chief of the armed force concerned determines in writing that the requirements in the document are necessary and realistic in relation to the program cost and fielding targets established under section 2448a(a) of this title.

(2) Consistent with the performance of duties under subsection (a), the Chief of the armed force concerned, or in the case of a joint program the chiefs of the armed forces concerned, with respect to major defense acquisition programs, shall—

(A) concur with the need for a materiel solution as identified in the Materiel Development Decision Review prior to entry into the Materiel Solution Analysis Phase under Department of Defense Instruction 5000.02;

(B) concur with the cost, schedule, technical feasibility, and performance trade-offs that have been made with regard to the program before Milestone A approval is granted under section 2366a of this title;

(C) concur that appropriate trade-offs among cost, schedule, technical feasibility, and performance objectives have been made to ensure that the program is affordable when considering the per unit cost and the total life-cycle cost before Milestone B approval is granted under section 2366b of this title; and

(D) concur that the requirements in the program capability document are necessary and realistic in relation to program cost and fielding targets as required by paragraph (1) before Milestone C approval is granted.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect the assignment of functions under section 7014(c)(1)(A), section 8014(c)(1)(A), or section 9014(c)(1)(A) of this title, except as explicitly provided in this section.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “requirements creep” means the addition of new technical or operational

specifications after a requirements document is approved by the appropriate validation authority for the requirements document.

(2) The term “requirements document” means a document produced in the requirements process that is provided for an acquisition program to guide the subsequent development, production, and testing of the program and that—

(A) justifies the need for a materiel approach, or an approach that is a combination of materiel and non-materiel, to satisfy one or more specific capability gaps;

(B) details the information necessary to develop an increment of militarily useful, logistically supportable, and technically mature capability, including key performance parameters; or

(C) identifies production attributes required for a single increment of a program.

(3) The term “program capability document” has the meaning provided in section 2446a(b)(5) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title VIII, §861(a), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4289; amended Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title IX, §951(c), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1891; Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title VIII, §802(b), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 879; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title VIII, §807(c), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2261; Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title VIII, §833, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1468; Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §809(a), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1840; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title XVII, §1731(a)(52), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1815; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, §924(b)(32), title XVIII, §1847(e)(4)(B), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3825, 4257.)

TRANSFER AND AMENDMENT OF SECTION

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XVIII, §§1801(d), 1808(a)(2), 1847(e)(4)(B), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4151, 4159, 4257, provided that, effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, this section is transferred and amended as follows:

(1) this section, as part of chapter 205 of this title as transferred and redesignated by section 1808(a)(1) of Pub. L. 116-283, is redesignated as section 3104 of this title; and

(2) subsection (b) of this section is transferred to section 4274(a) and (b) of this title.

See 2021 Amendment note and Effective Date of 2021 Amendment note below.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2547 was renumbered section 2557 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-283, §924(b)(32), substituted “the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the Chief of Space Operations” for “and the Commandant of the Marine Corps”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 116-283, §1847(e)(4)(B), transferred subsec. (b) to section 4274(a) and (b) of this title.

2019—Subsec. (b)(2)(A). Pub. L. 116-92 substituted “materiel” for “material” and “Materiel” for “Material” in two places.

2018—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115-232 substituted “section 7014(c)(1)(A), section 8014(c)(1)(A), or section 9014(c)(1)(A)” for “section 3014(c)(1)(A), section 5014(c)(1)(A), or section 8014(c)(1)(A)”.

2017—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-91 designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

2016—Subsecs. (b), (c). Pub. L. 114-328, §807(c)(1), (2), added subsec. (b) and redesignated former subsec. (b) as (c). Former subsec. (c) redesignated (d).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 114-328, §807(c)(1), redesignated subsec. (c) as (d).

Subsec. (d)(3). Pub. L. 114-328, §807(c)(3), added par. (3).

2015—Subsec. (a)(2) to (5). Pub. L. 114-92, §802(b)(1), (2), added par. (2) and redesignated former pars. (2) to (4) as (3) to (5), respectively. Former par. (5) redesignated (6).

Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 114-92, §802(b)(1), (3), redesignated par. (5) as (6) and substituted “The development and management” for “The development”. Former par. (6) redesignated (7).

Subsec. (a)(7). Pub. L. 114-92, §802(b)(1), redesignated par. (6) as (7).

2013—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 112-239, §951(c)(1), substituted “of requirements for equipping the armed force concerned” for “of requirements relating to the defense acquisition system”.

Subsec. (a)(3) to (6). Pub. L. 112-239, §951(c)(2), (3), added pars. (3) and (4) and redesignated former pars. (3) and (4) as (5) and (6), respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2021 AMENDMENT

Amendment by sections 1808(a)(2) and 1847(e)(4)(B) of Pub. L. 116-283 effective Jan. 1, 2022, with additional provisions for delayed implementation and applicability of existing law, see section 1801(d) of Pub. L. 116-283, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

§ 2548. Performance assessments of the defense acquisition system

(a) PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense, acting through the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, the Director of Procurement and Acquisition Policy, and the Director of the Office of Performance Assessment and Root Cause Analysis, shall issue guidance, with detailed implementation instructions, for the Department of Defense to provide for periodic independent performance assessments of elements of the defense acquisition system for the purpose of—

(1) determining the extent to which such elements of the defense acquisition system deliver value to the Department of Defense, taking into consideration the performance elements identified in subsection (b);

(2) assisting senior officials of the Department of Defense in identifying and developing lessons learned from best practices and shortcomings in the performance of such elements of the defense acquisition system; and

(3) assisting senior officials of the Department of Defense in developing acquisition workforce excellence under section 1701a of this title.

(b) AREAS CONSIDERED IN PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS.—(1) Each performance assessment conducted pursuant to subsection (a) shall consider, at a minimum—

(A) the extent to which acquisitions conducted by the element of the defense acquisi-