

(a) only if the Secretary determines that available commercial salvage facilities are inadequate to meet the requirements of national defense.

(d) PUBLIC NOTICE.—The Secretary may not enter into a contract under subsection (a) until the Secretary has provided public notice of the intent to enter into such a contract.

(e) SALVAGE FACILITIES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “salvage facilities” includes equipment and gear utilized to prevent, abate, or minimize damage to the environment.

(Added Pub. L. 104–106, div. A, title X, § 1015, Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 424, § 7361; amended Pub. L. 107–296, title XVII, § 1704(b)(1), (6), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2314; Pub. L. 108–136, div. A, title III, § 315(a), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1431; renumbered § 8701, Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title VIII, § 807(d)(3), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–232 renumbered section 7361 of this title as this section.

2003—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 108–136 added subsec. (e).

2002—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 107–296 substituted “of Homeland Security” for “of Transportation” in heading and in two places in text.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

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.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 107–296 effective on the date of transfer of the Coast Guard to the Department of Homeland Security, see section 1704(g) of Pub. L. 107–296, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

§ 8702. Acquisition and transfer of vessels and equipment

(a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the Navy may acquire or transfer for operation by private salvage companies such vessels and equipment as the Secretary considers necessary.

(b) AGREEMENT ON USE.—Before any salvage vessel or salvage gear is transferred by the Secretary to a private party, the private party must agree in writing with the Secretary that the vessel or gear will be used to support organized offshore salvage facilities for a period of as many years as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) REFERENCE TO AUTHORITY TO ADVANCE FUNDS FOR IMMEDIATE SALVAGE OPERATIONS.—For authority for the Secretary of the Navy to advance to private salvage companies such funds as the Secretary considers necessary to provide for the immediate financing of salvage operations, see section 3808(b) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 104–106, div. A, title X, § 1015, Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 424, § 7362; renumbered § 8702, Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title VIII, § 807(d)(3), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836; amended Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title XVIII, § 1834(i)(5), as added Pub. L. 117–81, div. A, title XVII, § 1701(n)(2), Dec. 27,

2021, 135 Stat. 2145; Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title XVIII, § 1876(c), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 4291; Pub. L. 117–81, div. A, title XVII, § 1701(n)(3), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 2146.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 116–283, § 1876(c), which directed striking the first two words of the subsec. heading, striking the text of subsec. (c) and inserting the text of par. (2) of section 2307(g) of this title, and substituting “this subsection” for “this paragraph” in the second sentence thereof, was repealed by Pub. L. 117–81, § 1701(n)(3), effective as if included in title XVIII of Pub. L. 116–283.

Pub. L. 116–283, § 1834(i)(5), as added by Pub. L. 117–81, § 1701(n)(2), which directed substitution of “section 3808(b)” for “section 2307(g)(2)” in section 8702(c), without specifying the Code title to be amended, was executed to subsec. (c) of this section to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

2018—Pub. L. 115–232 renumbered section 7362 of this title as this section.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2021 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 117–81 applicable as if included in the enactment of title XVIII of Pub. L. 116–283 as enacted, see section 1701(a)(2) of Pub. L. 117–81, set out in a note preceding section 3001 of this title and note below.

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.

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.

§ 8703. Settlement of claims

(a) AUTHORITY TO SETTLE CLAIM.—The Secretary of the Navy may settle any claim by the United States for salvage services rendered by the Department of the Navy and may receive payment of any such claim.

(b) SALVAGE SERVICES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “salvage services” includes services performed in connection with a marine salvage operation that are intended to prevent, abate, or minimize damage to the environment.

(Added Pub. L. 104–106, div. A, title X, § 1015, Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 425, § 7363; amended Pub. L. 108–136, div. A, title III, § 315(b), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1431; renumbered § 8703, Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title VIII, § 807(d)(3), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–232 renumbered section 7363 of this title as this section.

2003—Pub. L. 108–136 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), inserted heading, and added subsec. (b).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115–232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and