

retirement of a regular grade major general, except as provided by section 8301 of title 5, on 30th day after he completes 35 years of service or 5th anniversary of his appointment in that regular grade, whichever is later, with authority for Secretary of Air Force to defer retirement in certain cases. See section 636 of this title.

Prior sections 8924 to 8926 were renumbered section 9324 to 9326, respectively, of this title.

A prior section 8927, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 553; Aug. 21, 1957, Pub. L. 85-155, title III, §301(20), 71 Stat. 389; May 20, 1958, Pub. L. 85-422, §11(a)(8), 72 Stat. 131; Sept. 2, 1958, Pub. L. 85-861, §1(196), 72 Stat. 1540; Sept. 30, 1966, Pub. L. 89-609, §1(33), 80 Stat. 854, related to computation of years of service for determining whether a regular commissioned officer should be retired under former section 8913, 8915, 8916, 8919, 8921, 8922, or 8923 of this title and for determining retired pay of officers of Regular Air Force retired under former section 8913, 8915, 8916, 8919, 8921, 8922, or 8923 of this title, was repealed by Pub. L. 96-513, title II, §217(a), Dec. 12, 1980, 94 Stat. 2886, effective Sept. 15, 1981. See section 1405 of this title.

A prior section 8928, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 554, related to computation of years of service of Air Force Nurses or women medical specialists for purposes of retirement under former section 8912 of this title, or retirement pay under section 8991 of this title, was repealed by Pub. L. 85-155, title IV, §401(1), Aug. 21, 1957, 71 Stat. 390.

A prior section 8929 was renumbered section 9329 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 7881 of this title as this section.

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.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Pub. L. 98-525, title XV, §1532(b), Oct. 19, 1984, 98 Stat. 2631, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [enacting this chapter] shall not affect rights that vested before the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 19, 1984].”

CHAPTER 893—NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHIC PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Sec.	
8931.	National Oceanographic Partnership Program.
8932.	Ocean Policy Committee.
8933.	Ocean Research Advisory Panel.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title X, §1055(b)(2)(B), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3854, added item 8932 and struck out former item 8932 “National Ocean Research Leadership Council”.

2018—Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §807(e)(4), (f)(1), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1838, redesignated chapter 665 of this title as this chapter and items 7901 to 7903 as 8931 to 8933, respectively.

§ 8931. National Oceanographic Partnership Program

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of the Navy shall establish a program to be known as

the “National Oceanographic Partnership Program”.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the program are as follows:

(1) To promote the national goals of assuring national security, advancing economic development, protecting quality of life, ensuring environmental stewardship, and strengthening science education and communication through improved knowledge of the ocean.

(2) To coordinate and strengthen oceanographic efforts in support of those goals by—

(A) creating and carrying out partnerships among Federal agencies, academia, industry, and other members of the oceanographic community in the areas of science, data, technology development, resources, education, and communication; and

(B) accepting, planning, and executing oceanographic research projects funded by grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, or other vehicles as appropriate, that contribute to assuring national security, advancing economic development, protecting quality of life, ensuring environmental stewardship, and strengthening science education and communication through improved knowledge of the ocean.

(Added Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title II, §282(a)(1), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2470, §7901; renumbered §8931, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, §807(d)(14), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1837; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title X, §1055(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3851.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 116-283 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section related to establishment and purposes of National Oceanographic Partnership Program. As enacted by Pub. L. 116-283, “SEC.” preceding section designation and catchline text were editorially conformed to the style used in this title.

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 7901 of this title as this section.

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.

CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS

Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title II, §281, Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2469, provided that: “Congress finds the following:

“(1) The oceans and coastal areas of the United States are among the Nation’s most valuable natural resources, making substantial contributions to economic growth, quality of life, and national security.

“(2) Oceans drive global and regional climate. Hence, they contain information affecting agriculture, fishing, and the prediction of severe weather.

“(3) Understanding of the oceans through basic and applied research is essential for using the oceans wisely and protecting their limited resources. Therefore, the United States should maintain its world leadership in oceanography as one key to its competitive future.

“(4) Ocean research and education activities take place within Federal agencies, academic institutions,

and industry. These entities often have similar requirements for research facilities, data, and other resources (such as oceanographic research vessels).

“(5) The need exists for a formal mechanism to coordinate existing partnerships and establish new partnerships for the sharing of resources, intellectual talent, and facilities in the ocean sciences and education, so that optimal use can be made of this most important natural resource for the well-being of all Americans.”

§ 8932. Ocean Policy Committee

(a) COMMITTEE.—There is established an Ocean Policy Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “Committee”). The Committee shall retain broad and inclusive membership.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Committee shall—

(1) continue the activities of that Committee as it was in existence on the day before the date of the enactment of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021;

(2) engage and collaborate, pursuant to existing laws and regulations, with stakeholders, including regional ocean partnerships, to address ocean-related matters that may require interagency or intergovernmental solutions;

(3) facilitate coordination and integration of Federal activities in ocean and coastal waters to inform ocean policy and identify priority ocean research, technology, and data needs; and

(4) prescribe policies and procedures to implement the National Oceanographic Partnership Program, including developing guidelines for review, selection, identification, and approval of partnership projects, in conjunction with Federal agencies participating in the program, for implementation under the program, based on—

(A) whether the project addresses important research objectives or operational goals;

(B) whether the project has, or is designed to have, appropriate participation or support from public, academic, commercial, and private entities within the oceanographic community;

(C) whether the partners have a long-term commitment to the objectives of the project;

(D) whether the resources supporting the project are shared among the partners;

(E) whether the project has been subjected to adequate scientific and technical merit review according to each participating agency; and

(F) the approval of such guidelines by a consensus of the members of the Committee.

(c) DELEGATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES.—In discharging its responsibilities in support of agreed-upon scientific needs, and to assist in the execution of the responsibilities described in subsection (b), the Committee may delegate responsibilities to a subcommittee of the Committee, as the Committee determines appropriate.

(d) ANNUAL REPORT AND BRIEFING.—(1) Not later than March 1 of each year, the Committee shall—

(A) make publicly available on an appropriate website a report on the National Oceanographic Partnership Program; and

(B) provide to the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the contents of the report.

(2) Not later than 30 days after providing a briefing under paragraph (1)(B), the Committee shall make publicly available on an appropriate website the briefing materials covered by the briefing.

(3) Each report and briefing shall include the following:

(A) A description of activities of the National Oceanographic Partnership Program carried out during the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year during which the report is published.

(B) A general outline of the activities planned for the program during the fiscal year during which the report is published.

(C) A summary of projects, partnerships, and collaborations, including the Federal and non-Federal sources of funding, continued from the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year during which the report is published and projects expected to begin during the fiscal year during which the report is published and any subsequent fiscal year, as required under subsection (e)(4)(C).

(D) The amounts requested in the budget submitted to Congress pursuant to section 1105(a) of title 31 for the fiscal year following the fiscal year during which the report is published, for the programs, projects, activities and the estimated expenditures under such programs, projects, and activities, to execute the National Oceanographic Partnership Program.

(E) A summary of national ocean research priorities informed by the Ocean Research Advisory Panel, as required under section 8933(b)(4) of this title.

(F) A list of the members of the Ocean Research Advisory Panel established under section 8933(a) of this title and any working groups described in subsection (e)(4)(A) in existence during the fiscal years covered by the report.

(e) PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM OFFICE.—(1) The Secretary of the Navy and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall jointly establish a partnership program office for the National Oceanographic Partnership Program.

(2) The Secretary of the Navy and Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration shall use competitive procedures to select a non-Government entity to manage the partnership program office.

(3) The Committee shall monitor the management of the partnership program office.

(4) The partnership program office shall perform the following duties:

(A) Supporting working groups established by the Committee or subcommittee and reporting to the Committee and to any Federal agency that has contributed amounts to the National Oceanographic Partnership Program on the activities of such working groups, including the proposals of such working groups for partnership projects.

(B) Supporting the process for proposing partnership projects to the Committee and to