

the Air Force a Service Acquisition Executive of the Department of the Air Force for Space Systems and Programs.

“(b) SERVICE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective as of the date specified in subsection (d) and subject to paragraph (2), the individual serving as Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration under paragraph (6) of section 9016(b) of title 10, United States Code (as added by section 1832(b) [probably should be “section 956(b)”] of this Act), shall also serve as the Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs.

“(2) INCUMBENT.—The individual serving as Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Space Acquisition and Integration as of the date specified in subsection (d) may also serve as the Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs pursuant to paragraph (1) only if appointed as the Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, pursuant to a nomination submitted to the Senate on or after that date.

“(c) AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs shall have within the Department of the Air Force all the authorities and responsibilities of a service acquisition executive under section 1704 of title 10, United States Code, and other applicable law, for the Department of the Air Force with respect to space systems and programs.

“(2) SEPARATE SAE WITHIN THE AIR FORCE.—The Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs shall be in addition to the service acquisition executive in the Department of the Air Force for all acquisition matters of the Department of the Air Force other than with respect to space systems and programs.

“(3) GUIDANCE ON RELATIONSHIP AMONG SAES.—Not later than the date specified in subsection (d), and from time to time thereafter, the Secretary of the Air Force shall issue guidance for the Department of the Air Force on the authorities and responsibilities of the Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs and the authorities and responsibilities of the service acquisition executive of the Department for all acquisition matters of the Department other than with respect to space systems and programs.

“(4) COMMERCIAL SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES.—

“(A) AUTHORITY.—Beginning on the date specified in subparagraph (B), the Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs shall be responsible for the procurement of commercial satellite communications services for the Department of Defense.

“(B) DATE SPECIFIED.—The date specified in this subparagraph is the date that is 120 days after the date on which the Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs submits to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a plan for delegating the authority under subparagraph (A) to a subordinate acquisition command within the Space Force.

“(C) RESPONSIBILITY DURING INTERIM PERIOD.—During the period preceding the date specified in subparagraph (B), the Chief of Space Operations shall be responsible for the procurement of commercial satellite communications services for the Department of Defense.

“(5) PROGRAMS OF RECORD AND COMMERCIAL CAPABILITIES.—Prior to establishing a program of record, the Service Acquisition Executive for Space Systems and Programs shall determine whether existing or planned commercially available capabilities could meet all or a portion of the requirements for that

proposed program. Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Service Acquisition Executive makes such a positive determination, the Service Acquisition Executive shall submit to the congressional defense committees a notification of the results of the determination.

“(d) DATE SPECIFIED.—The date specified in this subsection is a date determined by the Secretary of the Air Force that is not later than October 1, 2022.”

§ 9017. Secretary of the Air Force: successors to duties

If the Secretary of the Air Force dies, resigns, is removed from office, is absent, or is disabled, the person who is highest on the following list, and who is not absent or disabled, shall perform the duties of the Secretary until the President, under section 3347¹ of title 5, directs another person to perform those duties or until the absence or disability ceases:

(1) The Under Secretary of the Air Force.

(2) The Assistant Secretaries of the Air Force, in the order prescribed by the Secretary of the Air Force and approved by the Secretary of Defense.

(3) The General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

(4) The Chief of Staff.

(5) The Chief of Space Operations.

(Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 489, § 8017; Pub. L. 89-718, § 23, Nov. 2, 1966, 80 Stat. 1118; Pub. L. 90-235, § 4(a)(9), Jan. 2, 1968, 81 Stat. 760; Pub. L. 99-433, title V, § 521(a)(4), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1058; Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title IX, § 902(c), Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2823; renumbered § 9017, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 806(c), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, § 923(b)(3), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3808.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
8017(a)	5:626-1(b).	Sept. 19, 1951, ch. 407,
8017(b)	5:626-1(c).	§ 102 (less (a)), 65 Stat. 327.

In subsection (a), the word “person” is substituted for the words “officer of the United States”. The words “until a successor is appointed” are omitted as surplusage.

Subsection (b) is substituted for 5:626-1(c) and states the effect of section 8544(b) of this title.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 3347 of title 5, referred to in text, was repealed and a new section 3347 was enacted by Pub. L. 105-277, div. C, title I, § 151(b), Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681-611, and, as so enacted, no longer contains provisions authorizing the President to direct temporary successors to duties. See section 3345 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

AMENDMENTS

2021—Par. (5). Pub. L. 116-283 added par. (5).

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8017 of this title as this section.

1994—Pars. (3), (4). Pub. L. 103-337 added par. (3) and redesignated former par. (3) as (4).

1986—Pub. L. 99-433 struck out subsec. (a) designation, substituted in par. (2) “, in the order prescribed

¹ See References in Text note below.

by the Secretary of the Air Force and approved by the Secretary of Defense” for “in order of their length of service as such”, and struck out subsec. (b) which read as follows: “Performance of the duties of the Secretary by the Chief of Staff or any officer of the Air Force designated under section 3347 of title 5 shall not be considered as the holding of a civil office within the meaning of section 973(b) of this title.”

1968—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 90-235 substituted “section 973(b) of this title” for “section 8544(b) of this title”.

1966—Pub. L. 89-718 substituted “section 3347 of title 5” for “section 6 of title 5” wherever appearing.

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.

Executive Documents

ORDER OF SUCCESSION

For order of succession in event of death, permanent disability, or resignation of Secretary of the Air Force, see Ex. Ord. No. 12909, Apr. 22, 1994, 59 F.R. 21909, listed in a table under section 3345 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 9018. Administrative Assistant

The Secretary of the Air Force may appoint an Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. The Administrative Assistant shall perform such duties as the Secretary may prescribe.

(Added Pub. L. 99-433, title V, § 521(a)(5), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1059, § 8018; renumbered § 9018, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 806(c), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8018 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.

§ 9019. General Counsel

(a) There is a General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force, appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) The General Counsel shall perform such functions as the Secretary of the Air Force may prescribe.

(Added Pub. L. 99-433, title V, § 521(a)(5), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1059, § 8019; amended Pub. L. 100-456, div. A, title VII, § 703(a), Sept. 29, 1988, 102 Stat. 1996; renumbered § 9019, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 806(c), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 8019 of this title as this section.

1988—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-456 inserted “, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate” before period at end.

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 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-456 applicable to appointments made under this section on and after Sept. 29, 1988, see section 703(c) of Pub. L. 100-456, set out as a note under section 7019 of this title.

§ 9020. Inspector General

(a) There is an Inspector General of the Department of the Air Force who shall be detailed to such position by the Secretary of the Air Force from the general officers of the Air Force or the general, flag, or equivalent officers of the Space Force. An officer may not be detailed to such position for a tour of duty of more than four years, except that the Secretary may extend such a tour of duty if he makes a special finding that the extension is necessary in the public interest.

(b) When directed by the Secretary, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, or the Chief of Space Operations, the Inspector General shall—

(1) inquire into and report upon the discipline, efficiency, and economy of the Department of the Air Force; and

(2) perform any other duties prescribed by the Secretary, the Chief of Staff, or the Chief of Space Operations.

(c) The Inspector General shall periodically propose programs of inspections to the Secretary of the Air Force and shall recommend additional inspections and investigations as may appear appropriate.

(d) The Inspector General shall cooperate fully with the Inspector General of the Department of Defense in connection with the performance of any duty or function by the Inspector General of the Department of Defense under the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App. 3) regarding the Department of the Air Force.

(e) The Inspector General shall have such deputies and assistants as the Secretary of the Air Force may prescribe. Each such deputy and assistant shall be an officer detailed by the Secretary to that position from the officers of the Air Force or the Space Force for a tour of duty of not more than four years, under a procedure prescribed by the Secretary.

(Added Pub. L. 99-433, title V, § 521(a)(5), Oct. 1, 1986, 100 Stat. 1059, § 8020; renumbered § 9020, Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title VIII, § 806(c), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1833; amended Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title IX, § 923(b)(4), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3808.)