

§ 580. Border interoperability demonstration project

(a) In general

(1) Establishment

The Secretary, acting through the Assistant Director for Emergency Communications (referred to in this section as the “Assistant Director”), and in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission and the Secretary of Commerce, shall establish an International Border Community Interoperable Communications Demonstration Project (referred to in this section as the “demonstration project”).

(2) Minimum number of communities

The Assistant Director shall select no fewer than 6 communities to participate in a demonstration project.

(3) Location of communities

No fewer than 3 of the communities selected under paragraph (2) shall be located on the northern border of the United States and no fewer than 3 of the communities selected under paragraph (2) shall be located on the southern border of the United States.

(b) Conditions

The Assistant Director, in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission and the Secretary of Commerce, shall ensure that the project is carried out as soon as adequate spectrum is available as a result of the 800 megahertz rebanding process in border areas, and shall ensure that the border projects do not impair or impede the rebanding process, but under no circumstances shall funds be distributed under this section unless the Federal Communications Commission and the Secretary of Commerce agree that these conditions have been met.

(c) Program requirements

Consistent with the responsibilities of the Emergency Communications Division under section 571 of this title, the Assistant Director shall foster local, tribal, State, and Federal interoperable emergency communications, as well as interoperable emergency communications with appropriate Canadian and Mexican authorities in the communities selected for the demonstration project. The Assistant Director shall—

(1) identify solutions to facilitate interoperable communications across national borders expeditiously;

(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.)

Editorial Notes

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.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

Reference to the Assistant Director for Emergency Communications deemed to be a reference to the Executive Assistant Director for Emergency Communications, see section 571(g) of this title, enacted Jan. 1, 2021.

SUBCHAPTER XIV—COUNTERING WEAPONS
OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 115-387, §2(a)(1), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5162, substituted “COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE” for “DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DETECTION 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 reimbursable detail of personnel with relevant expertise to the Office.

(e) Termination

The Office shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after December 21, 2018.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title XIX, §1901, as added Pub. L. 115-387, §2(a)(2), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5162.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 591, Pub. L. 107-296, title XIX, §1901, formerly title XVIII, §1801, as added Pub. L. 109-347, title V, §501(a), Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1932; renumbered title XIX, §1901, Pub. L. 110-53, title I, §104(a)(1), (2), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 294, related to establishment of a Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 115-387, §2(a)(2), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5162.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

REFERENCES AND CONSTRUCTION

Pub. L. 115-387, §2(b), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5166, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any reference in any law, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to—

“(A) the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office shall be deemed to be a reference to the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office; and

“(B) the Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection shall be deemed to be a reference to the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office.

“(2) CONSTRUCTION.—Sections 1923 through 1927 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 [6 U.S.C. 592, 593, 594, 596, 596a], as redesignated by subsection (a), shall be construed to cover the chemical and biological responsibilities of the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office.

“(3) AUTHORITY.—The authority of the Director of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office to make grants or enter into cooperative agreements is transferred to the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, and such authority shall be construed to include grants for all purposes of title XIX of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 [6 U.S.C. 590 et seq.], as amended by this Act.”

DOMESTIC NUCLEAR DETECTION OFFICE AND OFFICE OF
HEALTH AFFAIRS: ABOLISHMENT AND TRANSFER TO
COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION OFFICE

Pub. L. 115-387, §2(e), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5167, provided that:

“(1) TRANSFERS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall transfer to—

“(A) the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office all functions, personnel, budget authority, and assets of—

“(i) the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office, as in existence on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 21, 2018]; and

“(ii) the Office of Health Affairs, as in existence on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, except for the functions, personnel, budget authority, and assets of such office necessary to perform the functions specified in section 710 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 [6 U.S.C. 350] (relating to workforce health and medical support), as added by this Act; and

“(B) the Management Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security all functions, personnel, budget authority, and assets of the Office of Health Affairs, as in existence on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, that are necessary to perform the functions of such section 710.

“(2) ABOLISHMENT.—Upon completion of all transfers pursuant to paragraph (1)—

“(A) the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office of the Department of Homeland Security and the Office of