

A, title V, §533(b), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4216; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, §520, title X, §1076(b)(2), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1722, 1949; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §592, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2152; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, §524(a), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1355; Pub. L. 118-31, div. A, title XVII, §1722(j)(2)(C), Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 673.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2023—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 118-31 inserted “the Department of the” after “Air Force.”

2019—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-92 substituted “December 31, 2025” for “December 31, 2019” and “that agency.” for “that agency until—” and struck out pars. (1) and (2) which read as follows:

“(1) the Secretary submits to Congress a report that—

“(A) describes the reduction proposed to be made;

“(B) provides the Secretary’s rationale for that reduction; and

“(C) specifies the number of such personnel that would be assigned to duty with that agency after the reduction; and

“(2) a period of 90 days has elapsed after the date on which the report is submitted.”

2016—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 114-328 substituted “December 31, 2019” for “December 31, 2016” in introductory provisions.

2013—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112-239, §1076(b)(2), made technical amendment to directory language of Pub. L. 111-383. See 2011 Amendment note below.

Pub. L. 112-239, §520, substituted “December 31, 2016” for “December 31, 2013” in introductory provisions.

2011—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-383, as amended by Pub. L. 112-239, §1076(b)(2), substituted “December 31, 2013” for “December 31, 2010” in introductory provisions.

2008—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 110-417 substituted “December 31, 2010” for “October 1, 2008” in introductory provisions.

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-375 substituted “Before October 1, 2008,” for “During fiscal years 2003, 2004, and 2005,” in introductory provisions.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2013 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title X, §1076(b), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1949, provided that the amendment made by section 1076(b)(2) is effective Jan. 7, 2011, and as if included in Pub. L. 111-383 as enacted.

CHAPTER 80—MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATION REQUIREMENTS AND OTHER DUTIES

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1566a. Voting assistance: voter assistance offices.
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Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior chapter 80, comprised of sections 1571 to 1577, relating to Exemplary Rehabilitation Certificates, was repealed by Pub. L. 90-83, §3(2), Sept. 11, 1967, 81 Stat. 220.

AMENDMENTS

2021—Pub. L. 117-81, div. A, title V, §§543(b), 544(b), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1710, 1711, added items 1561 and 1562a and struck out former item 1561 “Complaints of sexual harassment: investigation by commanding officers”.

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §§523(c), 532(a)(2), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3599, 3602, added items 1561b, 1563, and 1563a and struck out former item 1563 “Consideration of proposals for posthumous and honorary promotions and appointments: procedures for review”. Item 1561b was added after item 1561a to reflect the probable intent of Congress, notwithstanding directory language adding it after item 1561b.

2018—Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title XVI, §1622(b), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 2118, added item 1564b.

2011—Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §581(b)(2), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1431, added item 1565b.

2009—Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, §583(b)(2), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2330, added item 1566a.

2008—Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title V, §§561(b), 562(b), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4470, added items 1567 and 1567a.

2003—Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title X, §§1031(a)(1)(B), 1041(a)(2), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1597, 1608, struck out “and recommendation” after “review” in item 1563 and added item 1564a.

2002—Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title X, §1063(b), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2653, added item 1565a.

Pub. L. 107-311, §2(b), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2455, added item 1561a.

2001—Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title XVI, §1602(a)(2), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1276, added item 1566.

2000—Pub. L. 106-546, §5(a)(2), Dec. 19, 2000, 114 Stat. 2732, added item 1565.

Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title V, §542(b), title X, §1072(b)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-115, 1654A-277, added items 1563 and 1564.

1999—Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, §594(b), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 644, added item 1562.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

ESTABLISHMENT OF PROCEDURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO DETERMINE CERTAIN COMPLAINTS OR REQUESTS REGARDING PUBLIC DISPLAYS OR PUBLIC EXPRESSIONS OF RELIGION ON PROPERTY OF THE DEPARTMENT

Pub. L. 118-31, div. A, title X, §1049, Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 393, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 22, 2023], the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations that establish the procedure for the timely determination of a covered complaint or request regarding a public display or public expression of religion on property of the

Department of Defense. Such regulations shall ensure that—

“(1) the officer or official of the Department who receives such complaint or request forwards the covered complaint or request—

“(A) to the individual authorized to make a determination under subsection (b); and

“(B) not later than 10 days after such receipt; and

“(2) such individual—

“(A) makes such determination not later than 30 days after such individual receives such forwarded covered complaint or request; and

“(B) timely notifies the individual or entity who made such covered complaint or request, and the officer or official of the Department who received such covered complaint or request, of such determination.

“(b) DETERMINATIONS.—A determination under regulations prescribed under subsection (a) shall be made—

“(1) by—

“(A) the Secretary of the military department concerned; or

“(B) the head of the Defense Agency or Department of Defense Field Activity concerned; and

“(2) after consultation with—

“(A)(i) in the case of a determination made by the Secretary of the military department concerned, the Chief of Chaplains of the military department concerned; or

“(ii) in the case of a determination made by the head of the Defense Agency or Department of Defense Field Activity concerned, the Armed Forces Chaplains Board; and

“(B)(i) a civilian attorney under the jurisdiction the Secretary of the military department concerned or the head of the Defense Agency or Department of Defense Field Activity concerned; or

“(ii) an officer of the Judge Advocate General’s Corps.

“(c) COVERED COMPLAINT OR REQUEST DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered complaint or request’ means a complaint or request—

“(1) regarding a public display or public expression of religion on property of the Department of Defense; and

“(2) made by an individual or entity other than—

“(A) a member of the Armed Forces;

“(B) a civilian employee of the Department of Defense; or

“(C) a contractor of the Department of Defense.”

ANNUAL PRIMARY PREVENTION RESEARCH AGENDA

Pub. L. 117-81, div. A, title V, § 549A, Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1721, as amended by Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title V, § 547(a), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2585, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on October 1, 2022, and annually on the first day of each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall publish a Department of Defense research agenda for that fiscal year, focused on the primary prevention of interpersonal and self-directed violence, including sexual assault, sexual harassment, domestic violence, child abuse and maltreatment, problematic juvenile sexual behavior, suicide, workplace violence, and substance misuse.

“(b) ELEMENTS.—Each annual primary prevention research agenda published under subsection (a) shall—

“(1) identify research priorities for that fiscal year;

“(2) assign research projects and tasks to the military departments and other components of the Department of Defense, as the Secretary of Defense determines appropriate;

“(3) allocate or direct the allocation of appropriate resourcing for each such project and task; and

“(4) be directive in nature and enforceable across all components of the Department of Defense, including with regard to—

“(A) providing for timely access to records, data and information maintained by any component of the Department of Defense that may be required in furtherance of an assigned research project or task;

“(B) ensuring the sharing across all components of the Department of Defense of the findings and the outcomes of any research project or task; and

“(C) any other matter determined by the Secretary of Defense.

“(c) GUIDING PRINCIPLES.—The primary prevention research agenda should, as determined by the Secretary of Defense—

“(1) reflect a preference for research projects and tasks with the potential to yield or contribute to the development and implementation of actionable primary prevention strategies in the Department of Defense;

“(2) include a focus on whether and to what extent sub-populations of the military community may be targeted for interpersonal violence more than others;

“(3) seek to identify factors that influence the prevention, perpetration, and victimization of interpersonal and self-directed violence;

“(4) seek to improve the collection and dissemination of data on hazing and bullying related to interpersonal and self-directed violence;

“(5) be integrated, so as to discover or test cross-cutting interventions across the spectrum of interpersonal and self-directed violence;

“(6) incorporate collaboration with other Federal departments and agencies, including the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, State governments, academia, industry, federally funded research and development centers, nonprofit organizations, and other organizations outside of the Department of Defense, including civilian institutions that conduct similar data-driven studies, collection, and analysis; and

“(7) minimize unnecessary duplication of effort.

“(d) BUDGETING.—The Secretary of Defense shall create a unique Program Element for and shall prioritize recurring funding to ensure the continuity of research pursuant to the annual primary prevention research agenda.”

MULTIDISCIPLINARY BOARD TO EVALUATE SUICIDE EVENTS

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, § 549A, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3620, provided that:

“(a) GUIDANCE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall issue guidance that requires each suicide event involving of a member of a covered Armed Force to be reviewed by a multidisciplinary board established at the command or installation level, or by the Chief of the covered Armed Force. Such guidance shall require that, for each suicide event reviewed by such a board, the board shall—

“(1) clearly define the objective, purpose, and outcome of the review;

“(2) take a multidisciplinary approach to the review and include, as part of the review process, leaders of military units, medical and mental health professionals, and representatives of military criminal investigative organizations; and

“(3) take appropriate steps to protect and share information obtained from ongoing investigations into the event (such as medical and law enforcement reports).

“(b) IMPLEMENTATION BY COVERED ARMED FORCES.—Not later than 90 days after the date on which the guidance is issued under subsection (a), the Chiefs of the covered Armed Forces shall implement the guidance.

“(c) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 1, 2021], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a report on the progress of the Secretary in implementing the guidance required under subsection (a).

“(d) COVERED ARMED FORCES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered Armed Forces’ means the

Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.”

INCREASE IN NUMBER OF DIGITAL FORENSIC EXAMINERS FOR CERTAIN MILITARY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title V, §539, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1364, provided that:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Each Secretary of a military department shall take appropriate actions to increase the number of digital forensic examiners in each military criminal investigative organization specified in subsection (b) under the jurisdiction of such Secretary by not fewer than 10 from the authorized number of such examiners for such organization as of September 30, 2019.

“(b) **MILITARY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE ORGANIZATIONS.**—The military criminal investigative organizations specified in this subsection are the following:

“(1) The Army Criminal Investigation Command.

“(2) The Naval Criminal Investigative Service.

“(3) The Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

“(c) **FUNDING.**—Funds for additional digital forensic examiners as required by subsection (a) for fiscal year 2020, including for compensation, initial training, and equipment, shall be derived from amounts authorized to be appropriated for that fiscal year for the Armed Force concerned for operation and maintenance.”

INCREASE IN INVESTIGATIVE PERSONNEL AND VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM LIAISONS

Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title V, §540, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1364, provided that:

“(a) **MILITARY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019], the Secretary of each military department shall increase the number of personnel assigned to the military criminal investigative services of the department with the goal of ensuring, to the extent practicable, that the investigation of any sex-related offense is completed not later than six months after the date on which the investigation is initiated. An investigation shall be considered completed for purposes of the preceding sentence when the active phase of the investigation is sufficiently complete to enable the appropriate authority to reach a decision with respect to the disposition of charges for the sex-related offense.

“(b) **VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM LIAISONS.**—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of each military department shall increase the number of personnel serving as Victim Witness Assistance Program liaisons to address personnel shortages in the Victim Witness Assistance Program.

“(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.”

ENHANCING THE CAPABILITY OF MILITARY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE ORGANIZATIONS TO PREVENT AND COMBAT CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title V, §550D, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1383, as amended by Pub. L. 118–31, div. A, title V, §534, Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 262, provided that:

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Beginning not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019], the Secretary of Defense shall establish and carry out an initiative to enhance the capability of military criminal investigative organizations to prevent and combat child sexual exploitation.

“(b) **ACTIVITIES.**—In establishing and carrying out the initiative under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense may—

“(1) work with internal and external functional experts to train the personnel of military criminal in-

vestigative organizations across the Department regarding—

“(A) technologies, tools, and techniques, including digital forensics, to enhance the investigation of child sexual exploitation; and

“(B) evidence-based forensic interviewing of child victims, and the referral of child victims for trauma-informed mental and medical health care, and other treatment and support services;

“(2) to the extent authorized by law, collaborate with Federal, State, local, and other civilian law enforcement agencies on issues relating to child sexual exploitation, including by—

“(A) participating in task forces established by such agencies for the purpose of preventing and combating child sexual exploitation;

“(B) establishing cooperative agreements to facilitate co-training and collaboration with such agencies; and

“(C) ensuring that streamlined processes for the referral of child sexual exploitation cases to other agencies and jurisdictions, as appropriate, are fully operational;

“(3) as appropriate, assist in educating the military community on the prevention and response to child sexual exploitation; and

“(4) carry out such other activities as the Secretary determines to be relevant.

“(c) **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.**—As part of the initiative under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall carry out the following activities:

“(1) **ANNUAL REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 [Dec. 22, 2023], and on an annual basis thereafter through 2029, the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the progress of the initiative, which shall include a description of specific actions that have been taken, or that are planned to be taken, to detect, combat, and stop the use of the Department of Defense information technology network to further online child sexual exploitation.

“(2) **PARTNERSHIPS.**—The Secretary shall seek to enter into partnerships and execute collaborative agreements with functional experts, including highly qualified national child protection organizations or law enforcement training centers with demonstrated expertise in the delivery of law enforcement training, to identify, investigate, and prosecute individuals engaged in online child sexual exploitation.

“(3) **MANDATORY TRAINING.**—The Secretary shall establish mandatory training for criminal investigative organizations of the Department of Defense and other appropriate personnel at military installations to ensure that the capability and capacity to investigate child sexual exploitation is continuously maintained regardless of staff turnover and relocations.”

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS FOR MILITARY INSTALLATIONS ON CHILD ABUSE AND OTHER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title V, §577, Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1781, provided that:

“(a) **MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAMS REQUIRED.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Under regulations prescribed by each Secretary concerned, there shall be established and maintained for each military installation, except as provided in paragraph (2), one or more multidisciplinary teams on child abuse and other domestic violence for the purposes specified in subsection (b).

“(2) **SINGLE TEAM FOR PROXIMATE INSTALLATIONS.**—A single multidisciplinary team described in paragraph (1) may be established and maintained under this subsection for two or more military installations in proximity with one another if the Secretary concerned determines, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense, that a single team for such installations suffices to carry out the purposes of such teams under subsection (b) for such installations.

“(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of each multidisciplinary team maintained pursuant to subsection (a) shall be as follows:

“(1) To provide for the sharing of information among such team and other appropriate personnel on the installation or installations concerned regarding the progress of investigations into and resolutions of incidents of child abuse and other domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces stationed at or otherwise assigned to the installation or installations.

“(2) To provide for and enhance collaborative efforts among such team and other appropriate personnel of the installation or installations regarding investigations into and resolutions of such incidents.

“(3) To enhance the social services available to military families at the installation or installations in connection with such incidents, including through the enhancement of cooperation among specialists and other personnel providing such services to such military families in connection with such incidents.

“(4) To carry out such other duties regarding the response to child abuse and other domestic violence at the installation or installations as the Secretary concerned considers appropriate for such purposes.

“(c) PERSONNEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each multidisciplinary team maintained pursuant to subsection (a) shall be composed of the following:

“(A) One or more judge advocates.

“(B) Appropriate personnel of one or more military criminal investigation services.

“(C) Appropriate mental health professionals.

“(D) Appropriate medical personnel.

“(E) Family advocacy case workers.

“(F) Such other personnel as the Secretary or Secretaries concerned consider appropriate.

“(2) EXPERTISE AND TRAINING.—Any individual assigned to a multidisciplinary team shall possess such expertise, and shall undertake such training as is required to maintain such expertise, as the Secretary concerned shall specify for purposes of this section in order to ensure that members of the team remain appropriately qualified to carry out the purposes of the team under this section. The training and expertise so specified shall include training and expertise on special victims’ crimes, including child abuse and other domestic violence.

“(d) COORDINATION AND COLLABORATION WITH NON-MILITARY RESOURCES.—

“(1) USE OF COMMUNITY RESOURCES SERVING INSTALLATIONS.—In providing under this section for a multidisciplinary team for a military installation or installations that benefit from services or resources on child abuse or other domestic violence that are provided by civilian entities in the vicinity of the installation or installations, the Secretary concerned may take the availability of such services or resources to the installation or installations into account in providing for the composition and duties of the team.

“(2) BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretaries concerned shall take appropriate actions to ensure that multidisciplinary teams maintained pursuant to subsection (a) remain fully and currently apprised of best practices in the civilian sector on investigations into and resolutions of incidents of child abuse and other domestic violence and on the social services provided in connection with such incidents.

“(3) COLLABORATION.—In providing for the enhancement of social services available to military families in accordance with subsection (b)(3), the Secretaries concerned shall permit, facilitate, and encourage multidisciplinary teams to collaborate with appropriate civilian agencies in the vicinity of the military installations concerned with regard to availability, provision, and use of such services to and by such families.

“(e) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than March 1 of each year from 2020 through 2022, each Secretary concerned shall submit to the Committees on Armed Serv-

ices of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the activities of multidisciplinary teams maintained pursuant to subsection (a) under the jurisdiction of such Secretary during the preceding year. Each report shall set forth, for the period covered by such report, the following:

“(1) A summary description of the activities of the multidisciplinary teams concerned, including the number and composition of such teams, the recurring activities of such teams, and any notable achievements of such teams.

“(2) A description of any impediments to the effectiveness of such teams.

“(3) Such recommendations for legislative or administrative action as such Secretary considers appropriate in order to improve the effectiveness of such teams.

“(4) Such other matters with respect to such teams as such Secretary considers appropriate.

“(f) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—

“(1) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘Secretary concerned’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(9) of title 10, United States Code.

“(2) USAGE WITH RESPECT TO MULTIPLE INSTALLATIONS.—For purposes of this section, any reference to ‘Secretary concerned’ with respect to a single multidisciplinary team established and maintained pursuant to subsection (a) for two or more military installations that are under the jurisdiction of different Secretaries concerned, shall be deemed to refer to each Secretary concerned who has jurisdiction of such an installation, acting jointly.”

§ 1561. Complaints of sexual harassment: independent investigation

(a) ACTION ON COMPLAINTS ALLEGING SEXUAL HARASSMENT.—A commanding officer or officer in charge of a unit, vessel, facility, or area of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Space Force who receives from a member of the command or a civilian employee under the supervision of the officer a formal complaint alleging a claim of sexual harassment by a member of the armed forces or a civilian employee of the Department of Defense shall, to the extent practicable, direct that an independent investigation of the matter be carried out in accordance with this section.

(b) COMMENCEMENT OF INVESTIGATION.—To the extent practicable, a commanding officer or officer in charge receiving such a formal complaint shall forward such complaint to an independent investigator within 72 hours after receipt of the complaint, and shall further—

(1) forward the formal complaint or a detailed description of the allegation to the next superior officer in the chain of command who is authorized to convene a general court-martial; and

(2) advise the complainant of the commencement of the investigation.

(c) DURATION OF INVESTIGATION.—To the extent practicable, a commanding officer or officer in charge shall ensure that an independent investigator receiving a formal complaint of sexual harassment under this section completes the investigation of the complaint not later than 14 days after the date on which the investigation is commenced, and that the findings of the investigation are forwarded to the commanding officer or officer in charge specified in subsection (a) for action as appropriate.

(d) REPORT ON INVESTIGATION.—To the extent practicable, a commanding officer or officer in charge shall—

(1) submit a final report on the results of the independent investigation, including any action taken as a result of the investigation, to the next superior officer referred to in subsection (b)(1) within 20 days after the date on which the investigation is commenced; or

(2) submit a report on the progress made in completing the investigation to the next superior officer referred to in subsection (b)(1) within 20 days after the date on which the investigation is commenced and every 14 days thereafter until the investigation is completed and, upon completion of the investigation, then submit a final report on the results of the investigation, including any action taken as a result of the investigation, to that next superior officer.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “independent investigator” means a civilian employee of the Department of Defense or a member of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, or Space Force who—

(A) is outside the immediate chain of command of the complainant and the subject of the investigation; and

(B) is trained in the investigation of sexual harassment, as determined by—

(i) the Secretary of Defense, in the case of a civilian employee of the Department of Defense;

(ii) the Secretary of the Army, in the case of a member of the Army;

(iii) the Secretary of the Navy, in the case of a member of the Navy or Marine Corps; or

(iv) the Secretary of the Air Force, in the case of a member of the Air Force or Space Force.

(2) The term “sexual harassment” means conduct that constitutes the offense of sexual harassment as punishable under section 934 of this title (article 134) pursuant to the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense for purposes of such section (article).

(Added Pub. L. 105–85, div. A, title V, § 591(a)(1), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1760; amended Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title V, § 548(a), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2129; Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title IX, § 924(b)(3)(Z), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3821; Pub. L. 117–81, div. A, title V, § 543(a), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1709; Pub. L. 117–263, div. A, title V, § 546(a), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2584.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Prior sections 1571 to 1577, Pub. L. 89–690, § 1, Oct. 15, 1966, 80 Stat. 1016, related to creation of Exemplary Rehabilitation Certificates to be issued by the Secretary of Labor to persons discharged or dismissed from the Armed Forces under conditions other than honorable or to persons who had received a general discharge but who had established that they had rehabilitated themselves and established the administrative and other authority in connection therewith, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 90–83, § 3(2), Sept. 11, 1967, 81 Stat. 220.

AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 117–263 amended subsec. (e) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “In this section, the term ‘sexual harassment’ means

conduct that constitutes the offense of sexual harassment as punishable under section 934 of this title (article 134) pursuant to the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense for purposes of such section (article).”

2021—Pub. L. 117–81 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section related to investigation by commanding officers of complaints of sexual harassment.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116–283 substituted “Marine Corps, or Space Force” for “or Marine Corps”.

2016—Subsec. (e)(1). Pub. L. 114–328, § 548(a)(1)(A), in introductory provisions, struck out “(constituting a form of sex discrimination)” after “Conduct”.

Subsec. (e)(1)(B). Pub. L. 114–328, § 548(a)(1)(B), substituted “the environment” for “the work environment”.

Subsec. (e)(3). Pub. L. 114–328, § 548(a)(2), struck out “in the workplace” after “of a sexual nature”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2022 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 117–263, div. A, title V, § 546(b), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2585, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect immediately after the coming into effect of the amendments made by section 543 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–81; 135 Stat. 1709) [amending this section and the analysis for this chapter] as provided in subsection (c) of that section.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2021 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 117–81, div. A, title V, § 543(c), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1710, provided that: “The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) [amending this section and the analysis for this chapter] shall—

“(1) take effect on the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 27, 2021]; and

“(2) apply to any investigation of a formal complaint of sexual harassment (as defined in section 1561 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a)) made on or after that date.”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2016 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title V, § 548(b), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2129, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2016], and shall apply with respect to complaints described in section 1561 of title 10, United States Code, that are first received by a commanding officer or officer in charge on or after that date.”

SHORT TITLE OF 2002 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 107–311, § 1, Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2455, provided that: “This Act [enacting section 1561a of this title] may be cited as the ‘Armed Forces Domestic Security Act’.”

REGULATIONS

Pub. L. 117–81, div. A, title V, § 543(d), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1710, provided that: “Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 27, 2021] the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations providing for the implementation of section 1561 of title 10, United States Code, as amended by subsection (a).”

POLICY ON INCLUSION OF RACE AND ETHNICITY IN ANNUAL REPORTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 117–81, div. A, title V, § 549G(b), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1728, provided that:

“(1) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 27, 2021], the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe a policy requiring

information on the race and ethnicity of accused individuals to be included to the maximum extent practicable in the annual report required under section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note).

“(2) EXCLUSION.—The policy prescribed under paragraph (1) may provide for the exclusion of such information based on privacy concerns, impacts on accountability efforts, or other matters of importance as determined and identified in such policy by the Secretary.

“(3) PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—The Secretary of Defense shall make publicly available the information described in paragraph (1), subject to the exclusion of such information pursuant to paragraph (2).

“(4) SUNSET.—The requirements of this subsection shall terminate on May 1, 2028.”

SAFE-TO-REPORT POLICY APPLICABLE ACROSS THE
ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §539A, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3607, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, prescribe in regulations a safe-to-report policy described in subsection (b) that applies with respect to all members of the Armed Forces (including members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces) and cadets and midshipmen at the military service academies.

“(b) SAFE-TO-REPORT POLICY.—The safe-to-report policy described in this subsection is a policy that prescribes the handling of minor collateral misconduct involving a member of the Armed Forces who is the alleged victim of sexual assault.

“(c) AGGRAVATING CIRCUMSTANCES.—The regulations under subsection (a) shall specify aggravating circumstances that increase the gravity of minor collateral misconduct or its impact on good order and discipline for purposes of the safe-to-report policy.

“(d) TRACKING OF COLLATERAL MISCONDUCT INCIDENTS.—In conjunction with the issuance of regulations under subsection (a), Secretary shall develop and implement a process to track incidents of minor collateral misconduct that are subject to the safe-to-report policy.

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘Armed Forces’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(4) of title 10, United States Code, except such term does not include the Coast Guard.

“(2) The term ‘military service academy’ means the following:

“(A) The United States Military Academy.

“(B) The United States Naval Academy.

“(C) The United States Air Force Academy.

“(3) The term ‘minor collateral misconduct’ means any minor misconduct that is potentially punishable under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), that—

“(A) is committed close in time to or during the sexual assault, and directly related to the incident that formed the basis of the sexual assault allegation;

“(B) is discovered as a direct result of the report of sexual assault or the ensuing investigation into the sexual assault; and

“(C) does not involve aggravating circumstances (as specified in the regulations prescribed under subsection (c)) that increase the gravity of the minor misconduct or its impact on good order and discipline.”

ACCOUNTABILITY OF LEADERSHIP OF THE DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE FOR DISCHARGING THE SEXUAL HARASSMENT
POLICIES AND PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §539B, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3608, provided that:

“(a) STRATEGY ON HOLDING LEADERSHIP ACCOUNTABLE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop and

implement Department of Defense-wide a strategy to hold individuals in positions of leadership in the Department (including members of the Armed Forces and civilians) accountable for the promotion, support, and enforcement of the policies and programs of the Department on sexual harassment.

“(b) OVERSIGHT FRAMEWORK.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The strategy required by subsection (a) shall provide for an oversight framework for the efforts of the Department of Defense to promote, support, and enforce the policies and programs of the Department on sexual harassment.

“(2) ELEMENTS.—The oversight framework required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

“(A) Long-term goals, objectives, and milestones in connection with the policies and programs of the Department on sexual harassment.

“(B) Strategies to achieve the goals, objectives, and milestones referred to in subparagraph (A).

“(C) Criteria for assessing progress toward the achievement of the goals, objectives, and milestones referred to in subparagraph (A).

“(D) Criteria for assessing the effectiveness of the policies and programs of the Department on sexual harassment.

“(E) Mechanisms to ensure that adequate resources are available to the Office of the Secretary of Defense to develop and discharge the oversight framework.

“(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 1, 2021], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the actions taken to carry out this section, including the strategy developed and implemented pursuant to subsection (a), and the oversight framework developed and implemented pursuant to subsection (b).”

TRAINING FOR COMMANDERS IN THE ARMED FORCES ON
THEIR ROLE IN ALL STAGES OF MILITARY JUSTICE IN
CONNECTION WITH SEXUAL ASSAULT

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, §540B, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1365, as amended by Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title X, §1081(c)(2), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3873, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The training provided commanders in the Armed Forces shall include comprehensive training on the role of commanders in all stages of military justice in connection with sexual assaults by members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) ELEMENTS TO BE COVERED.—The training provided pursuant to subsection (a) shall include training on the following:

“(1) The role of commanders in each stage of the military justice process in connection with sexual assault committed by a member of the Armed Forces, including investigation and prosecution.

“(2) The role of commanders in assuring that victims of sexual assault described in paragraph (1) are informed of, and have the opportunity to obtain, assistance available for victims of sexual assault by law.

“(3) The role of commanders in assuring that victims of sexual assault described in paragraph (1) are afforded the rights and protections available to victims by law.

“(4) The role of commanders in preventing retaliation against victims, their family members, witnesses, first responders, and bystanders for their complaints, statements, testimony, and status in connection with sexual assault described in paragraph (1), including the role of commanders in ensuring that subordinates in the command are aware of their responsibilities in preventing such retaliation.

“(5) The role of commanders in establishing and maintaining a healthy command climate in connection with reporting on sexual assault described in paragraph (1), and in the response of the commander, subordinates in the command, and other personnel in the command to such sexual assault, such reporting,

and the military justice process in connection with such sexual assault.

“(6) Any other matters on the role of commanders in connection with sexual assault described in paragraph (1) that the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate for purposes of this section.

“(c) INCORPORATION OF BEST PRACTICES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The training provided pursuant to subsection (a) shall incorporate best practices on all matters covered by the training.

“(2) IDENTIFICATION OF BEST PRACTICES.—The Secretaries of the military departments shall, acting through the training and doctrine commands of the Armed Forces, undertake from time to time surveys and other reviews of the matters covered by the training provided pursuant to subsection (a) in order to identify and incorporate into such training the most current practicable best practices on such matters.

“(d) UNIFORMITY.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the training provided pursuant to subsection (a) is, to the extent practicable, uniform across the Armed Forces.”

[Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title X, § 1081(c), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3873, provided that the amendment made by section 1081(c)(2) of Pub. L. 116-283 to section 540B of Pub. L. 116-92, set out above, is effective as of Dec. 20, 2020 (probably should be Dec. 20, 2019) and as if included in Pub. L. 116-92.]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE-WIDE POLICY AND MILITARY DEPARTMENT-SPECIFIC PROGRAMS ON REINVIGORATION OF THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, § 540D, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1366, provided that:

“(a) POLICY REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019], the Secretary of Defense shall develop and issue a comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense to reinvigorate the prevention of sexual assault involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) POLICY ELEMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The policy required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

“(A) Education and training for members of the Armed Forces on the prevention of sexual assault.

“(B) Elements for programs designed to encourage and promote healthy relationships among members of the Armed Forces.

“(C) Elements for programs designed to empower and enhance the role of non-commissioned officers in the prevention of sexual assault.

“(D) Elements for programs to foster social courage among members of the Armed Forces to encourage and promote intervention in situations in order to prevent sexual assault.

“(E) Processes and mechanisms designed to address behaviors among members of the Armed Forces that are included in the continuum of harm that frequently results in sexual assault.

“(F) Elements for programs designed to address alcohol abuse, including binge drinking, among members of the Armed Forces.

“(G) Such other elements, processes, mechanisms, and other matters as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.

“(2) CONTINUUM OF HARM RESULTING IN SEXUAL ASSAULT.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(E), the continuum of harm that frequently results in sexual assault includes hazing, sexual harassment, and related behaviors (including language choices, off-hand statements, jokes, and unconscious attitudes or biases) that create a permissive climate for sexual assault.

“(c) PROGRAMS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the issuance of the policy required by subsection (a), each Secretary of a military department shall develop and implement for each Armed Force under the jurisdiction of such Secretary a program to reinvigorate the prevention of sexual assaults involving mem-

bers of the Armed Forces. Each program shall include the elements, processes, mechanisms, and other matters developed by the Secretary of Defense pursuant to subsection (a) tailored to the requirements and circumstances of the Armed Force or Armed Forces concerned.”

DEFENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, § 550B, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1380, as amended by Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, § 533-535, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3603, 3604, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT REQUIRED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish and maintain within the Department of Defense an advisory committee to be known as the ‘Defense Advisory Committee for the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct’ (in this section referred to as the ‘Advisory Committee’).

“(2) DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish the Advisory Committee not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019].

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall consist of not more than 20 members, appointed by the Secretary from among individuals who have an expertise appropriate for the work of the Advisory Committee, including at least one individual with each expertise as follows:

“(A) Expertise in the prevention of sexual assault and behaviors on the sexual assault continuum of harm.

“(B) Expertise in adverse behaviors, including the prevention of suicide and the prevention of substance abuse.

“(C) Expertise in the change of culture of large organizations.

“(D) Expertise in implementation science.

“(2) BACKGROUND OF INDIVIDUALS.—Individuals appointed to the Advisory Committee may include individuals with expertise in sexual assault prevention efforts of institutions of higher education, public health officials, and such other individuals as the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(3) PROHIBITION ON MEMBERSHIP OF MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES ON ACTIVE DUTY.—A member of the Armed Forces serving on active duty may not serve as a member of the Advisory Committee.

“(c) DUTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall advise the Secretary on the following:

“(A) The prevention of sexual assault (including rape, forcible sodomy, other sexual assault, and other sexual misconduct (including behaviors on the sexual assault continuum of harm)) involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(B) The policies, programs, and practices of each military department, each Armed Force, and each military service academy, including the United States Coast Guard Academy, for the prevention of sexual assault as described in subparagraph (A).

“(2) BASIS FOR PROVISION OF ADVICE.—For purposes of providing advice to the Secretary pursuant to this subsection, the Advisory Committee shall review, on an ongoing basis, the following:

“(A) Closed cases involving allegations of sexual assault described in paragraph (1).

“(B) Efforts of institutions of higher education to prevent sexual assault among students.

“(C) Efforts among private employers to prevent sexual assault and sexual harassment among their employees.

“(D) Evidence-based studies on the prevention of sexual assault and sexual harassment in the Armed Forces, institutions of higher education, and the private sector.

“(E) Any other information or matters that the Advisory Committee or the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(3) COORDINATION OF EFFORTS.—In addition to the reviews required by paragraph (2), for purposes of providing advice to the Secretary the Advisory Committee shall also consult and coordinate with the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces (DAC-IPAD) on matters of joint interest to the two Advisory Committees.

“(d) ADVISORY DUTIES ON COAST GUARD ACADEMY.—In providing advice under subsection (c)(1)(B), the Advisory Committee shall also advise the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating in accordance with this section on policies, programs, and practices of the United States Coast Guard Academy.

“(e) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than March 30 each year, the Advisory Committee shall submit to the Secretary and the Committees on Armed Services and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report on the activities of the Advisory Committee pursuant to this section during the preceding year. The report in 2021 shall also include the following:

“(1) A description and assessment of the extent and effectiveness of the inclusion by the Armed Forces of sexual assault prevention and response training in leader professional military education (PME), especially in such education for personnel in junior non-commissioned officer grades.

“(2) An assessment of the feasibility of—

“(A) the screening before entry into military service of recruits who may have been the subject or perpetrator of prior incidents of sexual assault and harassment, including through background checks; and

“(B) the administration of screening tests to recruits to assess recruit views and beliefs on equal opportunity, and whether such views and beliefs are compatible with military service.

“(3) An assessment of the feasibility of conducting exit interviews of members of the Armed Forces upon their discharge release from the Armed Forces in order to determine whether they experienced or witnessed sexual assault or harassment during military service and did not report it, and an assessment of the feasibility of combining such exit interviews with the Catch a Serial Offender (CATCH) Program of the Department of Defense.

“(4) An assessment whether the sexual assault reporting databases of the Department are sufficiently anonymized to ensure privacy while still providing military leaders with the information as follows:

“(A) The approximate length of time the victim and the assailant had been at the duty station at which the sexual assault occurred.

“(B) The percentage of sexual assaults occurring while the victim or assailant were on temporary duty, leave, or otherwise away from their permanent duty station.

“(C) The number of sexual assaults that involve an abuse of power by a commander or supervisor.

“(f) SEXUAL ASSAULT CONTINUUM OF HARM.—In this section, the term ‘sexual assault continuum of harm’ includes—

“(1) inappropriate actions (such as sexist jokes), sexual harassment, gender discrimination, hazing, cyber bullying, or other behavior that contributes to a culture that is tolerant of, or increases risk for, sexual assault; and

“(2) maltreatment or ostracism of a victim for a report of sexual misconduct.

“(g) TERMINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Advisory Committee shall terminate on the date that is five years after the date of the establishment of the Advisory Committee pursuant to subsection (a).

“(2) CONTINUATION.—The Secretary of Defense may continue the Advisory Committee after the termination date applicable under paragraph (1) if the Sec-

retary determines that continuation of the Advisory Committee after that date is advisable and appropriate. If the Secretary determines to continue the Advisory Committee after that date, the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Armed Services and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives.”

[Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §535(4), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3604, which directed amendment of section 550B(g)(2) of Pub. L. 116-92, set out above, by substituting “the Committees on Armed Services and Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate and the Committees on Armed Services and Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives” for “the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives”, was executed by making the substitution for “the Committees on the Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives” to reflect the probable intent of Congress.]

UNIFORM COMMAND ACTION FORM ON DISPOSITION OF UNRESTRICTED SEXUAL ASSAULT CASES INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §535, Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1761, provided that: “The Secretary of Defense shall establish a uniform command action form, applicable across the Armed Forces, for reporting the final disposition of cases of sexual assault in which—

“(1) the alleged offender is a member of the Armed Forces; and

“(2) the victim files an unrestricted report on the alleged assault.”

REPORT ON VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN REPORTS OF MILITARY CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE ORGANIZATIONS

Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §547, Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1765, as amended by Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §536, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3604, provided that:

“(a) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2019, and not less frequently than once every two years thereafter, the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a report that includes, with respect to the period of two years preceding the date of the submittal of the report, the following:

“(1) The number of instances in which a covered individual was suspected of misconduct or crimes considered collateral to the investigation of a sexual offense committed against the individual.

“(2) The number of instances in which adverse action was taken against a covered individual who was suspected of collateral misconduct or crimes as described in paragraph (1).

“(3) The percentage of investigations of sexual offenses that involved suspicion of or adverse action against a covered individual as described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

“(b) GUIDANCE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall issue guidance to ensure the uniformity of the data collected by each Armed Force for purposes of subsection (a). At a minimum, such guidance shall establish—

“(1) standardized methods for the collection of the data required to be reported under such subsection; and

“(2) standardized definitions for the terms ‘sexual offense’, ‘collateral misconduct’, and ‘adverse action’.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘covered individual’ means an individual who is identified in the case files of a military criminal investigative organization as a victim of a sexual offense that occurred while that individual

was serving on active duty as a member of the Armed Forces.

“(2) The term ‘suspected of’, when used with respect to a covered individual suspected of collateral misconduct or crimes as described in subsection (a), means that an investigation by a military criminal investigative organization reveals facts and circumstances that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the individual committed an offense under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice).”

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TRAINING FOR ALL INDIVIDUALS ENLISTED IN THE ARMED FORCES UNDER A DELAYED ENTRY PROGRAM

Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title V, §535, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1391, provided that:

“(a) **TRAINING REQUIRED.**—Commencing not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 12, 2017], each Secretary concerned shall, insofar as practicable, provide training on sexual assault prevention and response to each individual under the jurisdiction of such Secretary who is enlisted in the Armed Forces under a delayed entry program such that each such individual completes such training before the date of commencement of basic training or initial active duty for training in the Armed Forces.

“(b) **TRAINING ELEMENTS.**—The training provided pursuant to subsection (a)—

“(1) shall, to the extent practicable, be uniform across the Armed Forces;

“(2) should be provided through in-person instruction, whenever possible;

“(3) should include instruction on the proper use of social media; and

“(4) shall meet such other requirements as the Secretary of Defense may establish.

“(c) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘delayed entry program’ means the following:

“(A) The Future Soldiers Program of the Army.

“(B) The Delayed Entry Program of the Navy and the Marine Corps.

“(C) The program of the Air Force for the delayed entry of enlistees into the Air Force.

“(D) The program of the Coast Guard for the delayed entry of enlistees into the Coast Guard.

“(E) Any successor program to a program referred to in subparagraphs (A) through (D).

“(2) The term ‘Secretary concerned’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(9) of title 10, United States Code.”

METRICS FOR EVALUATING THE EFFORTS OF THE ARMED FORCES TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO RETALIATION IN CONNECTION WITH REPORTS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §545, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2128, provided that:

“(a) **METRICS REQUIRED.**—The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Department of Defense shall establish and issue to the military departments metrics to be used to evaluate the efforts of the Armed Forces to prevent and respond to retaliation in connection with reports of sexual assault in the Armed Forces.

“(b) **BEST PRACTICES.**—For purposes of enhancing and achieving uniformity in the efforts of the Armed Forces to prevent and respond to retaliation in connection with reports of sexual assault in the Armed Forces, the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office shall identify and issue to the military departments best practices to be used in the prevention of and response to retaliation in connection with such reports.”

TRAINING FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL WHO INVESTIGATE CLAIMS OF RETALIATION

Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §546, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2128, as amended by Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title V, §523(b), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1381, provided that:

“(a) **TRAINING REGARDING NATURE AND CONSEQUENCES OF RETALIATION.**—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the personnel of the Department of Defense specified in subsection (b) who investigate claims of retaliation receive training on the nature and consequences of retaliation, and, in cases involving reports of sexual assault, the nature and consequences of sexual assault trauma. The training shall include such elements as the Secretary shall specify for purposes of this section, including guidelines for the consideration of evidence substantiating such allegations in accordance with the requirements of section 1554b(b) of title 10, United States Code, as added by section 522 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 [Pub. L. 115-91].

“(b) **COVERED PERSONNEL.**—The personnel of the Department of Defense covered by subsection (a) are the following:

“(1) Personnel of military criminal investigation services.

“(2) Personnel of Inspectors General offices.

“(3) Personnel of any command of the Armed Forces who are assignable by the commander of such command to investigate claims of retaliation made by or against members of such command.

“(c) **RETALIATION DEFINED.**—In this section, the term ‘retaliation’ has the meaning given the term by the Secretary of Defense in the strategy required by section 539 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2016 [National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016] (Public Law 114-92; 129 Stat. 818) or a subsequent meaning specified by the Secretary.”

NOTIFICATION TO COMPLAINANTS OF RESOLUTION OF INVESTIGATIONS INTO RETALIATION

Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §547, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2128, provided that:

“(a) **NOTIFICATION REQUIRED.**—

“(1) **MEMBERS OF THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, AND MARINE CORPS.**—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, upon the conclusion of an investigation by an office, element, or personnel of the Department of Defense or of the Armed Forces of a complaint by a member of the Armed Forces of retaliation, the member shall be informed in writing of the results of the investigation, including whether the complaint was substantiated, unsubstantiated, or dismissed.

“(2) **MEMBERS OF COAST GUARD.**—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall provide in a similar manner for notification in writing of the results of investigations by offices, elements, or personnel of the Department of Homeland Security or of the Coast Guard of complaints of retaliation made by members of the Coast Guard when it is not operating as a service in the Navy.

“(b) **RETALIATION DEFINED.**—In this section, the term ‘retaliation’ has the meaning given the term by the Secretary of Defense in the strategy required by section 539 of the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2016 [National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016] (Public Law 114-92; 129 Stat. 818) or a subsequent meaning specified by the Secretary.”

RETENTION OF CASE NOTES IN INVESTIGATIONS OF SEX-RELATED OFFENSES INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMY, NAVY, AIR FORCE, OR MARINE CORPS

Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title V, §541, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 819, as amended by Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title X, §1081(f)(1), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3874, provided that:

“(a) **RETENTION OF ALL INVESTIGATIVE RECORDS REQUIRED.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 25, 2015], the Secretary of Defense shall update Department of Defense records retention policies to ensure that, for all investigations relating to an alleged sex-related offense (as defined in section 1044e(h) of title 10, United States Code) involving a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps, all elements of the case file shall be retained as

part of the investigative records retained in accordance with section 586 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112-81; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note).

“(b) ELEMENTS.—In updating records retention policies as required by subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall address, at a minimum, the following matters:

“(1) The elements of the case file to be retained must include, at a minimum, the case activity record, case review record, investigative plans, and all case notes made by an investigating agent or agents.

“(2) All investigative records must be retained for no less than 50 years.

“(3) No element of the case file may be destroyed until the expiration of the time that investigative records must be kept.

“(4) Records may be stored digitally or in hard copy, in accordance with existing law or regulations or additionally prescribed policy considered necessary by the Secretary of the military department concerned.

“(c) CONSISTENT EDUCATION AND POLICY.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that existing policy, education, and training are updated to reflect policy changes in accordance with subsection (a).

“(d) UNIFORM APPLICATION TO MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that, to the maximum extent practicable, the policy developed under subsections (a) is implemented uniformly by the military departments.”

[Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title X, §1081(f), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3874, provided that the amendment made by section 1081(f)(1) of Pub. L. 116-283 to section 541 of Pub. L. 114-92, set out above, is effective as of Dec. 23, 2016, and as if included in Pub. L. 114-92.]

REQUIRED CONSIDERATION OF CERTAIN ELEMENTS OF COMMAND CLIMATE IN PERFORMANCE APPRAISALS OF COMMANDING OFFICERS

Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title V, §508, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3357, provided that: “The Secretary of a military department shall ensure that the performance appraisal of a commanding officer in an Armed Force under the jurisdiction of that Secretary indicates the extent to which the commanding officer has or has not established a command climate in which—

“(1) allegations of sexual assault are properly managed and fairly evaluated; and

“(2) a victim of criminal activity, including sexual assault, can report the criminal activity without fear of retaliation, including ostracism and group pressure from other members of the command.”

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINERS FOR THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title V, §539(a), (b), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3370, provided that:

“(a) PERSONNEL ELIGIBLE FOR ASSIGNMENT.—

“(1) SPECIFIED PERSONNEL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), an individual who may be assigned to duty as a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner (SAFE) for the Armed Forces is limited to members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense who are also one of the following:

“(A) A physician.

“(B) A nurse practitioner.

“(C) A nurse midwife.

“(D) A physician assistant.

“(E) A registered nurse.

“(2) INDEPENDENT DUTY CORPSMEN.—An independent duty corpsman or equivalent may be assigned to duty as a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner for the Armed Forces if the assignment of an individual specified in paragraph (1) is impracticable.

“(b) TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish and maintain, and update when appropriate, a

training and certification program for Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners. The training and certification programs shall apply uniformly to all Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners under the jurisdiction of the Secretaries of the military departments.

“(2) ELEMENTS.—Each training and certification program under this subsection shall include training in sexual assault forensic examinations by qualified personnel who possess—

“(A) a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner—Adult/Adolescent (SANE-A) certification or equivalent certification; or

“(B) training and clinical or forensic experience in sexual assault forensic examinations similar to that required for a certification described in subparagraph (A).

“(3) NATURE OF TRAINING.—The training provided under each training and certification program under this subsection shall incorporate and reflect current best practices and standards on sexual assault forensic examinations.

“(4) APPLICABILITY OF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS.—Effective beginning one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 19, 2014], an individual may not be assigned to duty as a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner for the Armed Forces unless the individual has completed, by the date of such assignment, all training required under the training and certification program under this subsection.”

DEFENSE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION, AND DEFENSE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title V, §546(a)–(f), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3374, 3375, as amended by Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title V, §537, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 817; Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, §533, Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1760; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, §535, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1362, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT REQUIRED.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish and maintain within the Department of Defense an advisory committee to be known as the ‘Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault in the Armed Forces’ (in this section referred to as the ‘Advisory Committee’).

“(2) DEADLINE FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish the Advisory Committee not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 [Nov. 25, 2015].

“(b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Advisory Committee shall consist of not more than 20 members, to be appointed by the Secretary of Defense, who have experience with the investigation, prosecution, and defense of allegations of sexual assault offenses. Members of the Advisory Committee may include Federal and State prosecutors, judges, law professors, and private attorneys. Members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty may not serve as a member of the Advisory Committee.

“(c) DUTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall advise the Secretary of Defense on the investigation, prosecution, and defense of allegations of rape, forcible sodomy, sexual assault, and other sexual misconduct involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(2) BASIS FOR PROVISION OF ADVICE.—For purposes of providing advice to the Secretary pursuant to this subsection, the Advisory Committee shall review, on an ongoing basis, cases involving allegations of sexual misconduct described in paragraph (1).

“(d) AUTHORITIES.—

“(1) HEARINGS.—The Advisory Committee may hold such hearings, sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony, and receive such evidence as the committee considers appropriate to carry out its duties under this section.

“(2) INFORMATION FROM FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request by the chair of the Advisory Committee, a de-

partment or agency of the Federal Government shall provide information that the Advisory Committee considers necessary to carry out its duties under this section. In carrying out this paragraph, the department or agency shall take steps to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of personally identifiable information.

“(e) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than March 30 each year, the Advisory Committee shall submit to the Secretary of Defense and the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report describing the results of the activities of the Advisory Committee pursuant to this section during the preceding year.

“(f) TERMINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Advisory Committee shall terminate on the date that is 10 years after the date of the establishment of the Advisory Committee pursuant to subsection (a).

“(2) CONTINUATION.—The Secretary of Defense may continue the Advisory Committee after the termination date applicable under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that continuation of the Advisory Committee after that date is advisable and appropriate. If the Secretary determines to continue the Advisory Committee after that date, the Secretary shall submit to the President and the congressional committees specified in subsection (d) a report describing the reasons for that determination and specifying the new termination date for the Advisory Committee.”

[For termination, effective Dec. 31, 2021, of annual reporting provisions in section 546(e) of Pub. L. 113–291, set out above, see section 1061 of Pub. L. 114–328, set out as a note under section 111 of this title.]

IMPROVED CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS AND DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

Pub. L. 113–66, div. A, title V, §587, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 778, provided that:

“(a) IMPROVED DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS IN CHAIN OF COMMAND.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the results of command climate assessments are provided to the relevant individual commander and to the next higher level of command.

“(b) EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary of each military department shall require in the performance evaluations and assessments used by each Armed Force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary a statement by the commander regarding whether the commander has conducted the required command climate assessments.

“(c) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO CONDUCT ASSESSMENT.—The failure of a commander to conduct the required command climate assessments shall be noted in the commander’s performance evaluation.”

AVAILABILITY OF SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMINERS AT MILITARY MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITIES

Pub. L. 113–66, div. A, title XVII, §1725(b), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 971, as amended by Pub. L. 113–291, div. A, title V, §539(d)(1), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3371, provided that:

“(1) FACILITIES WITH FULL-TIME EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT.—The Secretary of a military department shall require the assignment of at least one full-time Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner to each military medical treatment facility under the jurisdiction of that Secretary in which an emergency department operates 24 hours per day. The Secretary may assign additional Sexual Assault Forensic Examiners based on the demographics of the patients who utilize the military medical treatment facility.

“(2) OTHER FACILITIES.—In the case of a military medical treatment facility not covered by paragraph (1), the Secretary of the military department concerned shall require that a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner be made available to a patient of the facility, consistent with the Department of Justice National Pro-

ocol for Sexual Assault Medical Forensic Examinations, Adult/Adolescent, when a determination is made regarding the patient’s need for the services of a Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner.”

COMMANDING OFFICER ACTION ON REPORTS ON SEXUAL OFFENSES INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 113–66, div. A, title XVII, §1742, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 979, provided that:

“(a) IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED.—A commanding officer who receives a report of a sex-related offense involving a member of the Armed Forces in the chain of command of such officer shall act upon the report in accordance with subsection (b) immediately after receipt of the report by the commanding officer.

“(b) ACTION REQUIRED.—The action required by this subsection with respect to a report described in subsection (a) is the referral of the report to the military criminal investigation organization with responsibility for investigating that offense of the military department concerned or such other investigation service of the military department concerned as the Secretary of the military department concerned may specify for purposes of this section.”

EIGHT-DAY INCIDENT REPORTING REQUIREMENT IN RESPONSE TO UNRESTRICTED REPORT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT IN WHICH THE VICTIM IS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 113–66, div. A, title XVII, §1743, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 979, provided that:

“(a) INCIDENT REPORTING POLICY REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall establish and maintain a policy to require the submission by a designated person of a written incident report not later than eight days after an unrestricted report of sexual assault has been made in which a member of the Armed Forces is the victim. At a minimum, this incident report shall be provided to the following:

“(1) The installation commander, if such incident occurred on or in the vicinity of a military installation.

“(2) The first officer in the grade of O-6, and the first general officer or flag officer, in the chain of command of the victim.

“(3) The first officer in the grade of O-6, and the first general officer or flag officer, in the chain of command of the alleged offender if the alleged offender is a member of the Armed Forces.

“(b) PURPOSE OF REPORT.—The purpose of the required incident report under subsection (a) is to detail the actions taken or in progress to provide the necessary care and support to the victim of the assault, to refer the allegation of sexual assault to the appropriate investigatory agency, and to provide initial notification of the serious incident when that notification has not already taken place.

“(c) ELEMENTS OF REPORT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The report of an incident under subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, the following:

“(A) Time/Date/Location of the alleged incident.

“(B) Type of offense alleged.

“(C) Service affiliation, assigned unit, and location of the victim.

“(D) Service affiliation, assigned unit, and location of the alleged offender, including information regarding whether the alleged offender has been temporarily transferred or removed from an assigned billet or ordered to pretrial confinement or otherwise restricted, if applicable.

“(E) Post-incident actions taken in connection with the incident, including the following:

“(i) Referral of the victim to a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator for referral to services available to members of the Armed Forces who are victims of sexual assault, including the date of each such referral.

“(ii) Notification of incident to appropriate military criminal investigative organization, including the organization notified and date of such notification.

“(iii) Receipt and processing status of a request for expedited victim transfer, if applicable.

“(iv) Issuance of any military protective orders in connection with the incident.

“(2) MODIFICATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense may modify the elements required in a report under this section regarding an incident involving a member of the Armed Forces (including the Coast Guard when it is operating as service in the Department of the Navy) if the Secretary determines that such modification will facilitate compliance with best practices for such reporting as identified by the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Department of Defense.

“(B) COAST GUARD.—The Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating may modify the elements required in a report under this section regarding an incident involving a member of the Coast Guard if the Secretary determines that such modification will facilitate compliance with best practices for such reporting as identified by the Coast Guard Office of Work-Life Programs.

“(d) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 26, 2013], the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section.”

INCLUSION AND COMMAND REVIEW OF INFORMATION ON SEX-RELATED OFFENSES IN PERSONNEL SERVICE RECORDS OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, §1745, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 982, provided that:

“(a) INFORMATION ON REPORTS ON SEX-RELATED OFFENSES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If a complaint of a sex-related offense is made against a member of the Armed Forces and the member is convicted by court-martial or receives non-judicial punishment or punitive administrative action for such sex-related offense, a notation to that effect shall be placed in the personnel service record of the member, regardless of the member’s grade.

“(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the inclusion of information in personnel service records under paragraph (1) is to alert commanders to the members of their command who have received courts-martial conviction, non-judicial punishment, or punitive administrative action for sex-related offenses in order to reduce the likelihood that repeat offenses will escape the notice of commanders.

“(b) LIMITATION ON PLACEMENT.—A notation under subsection (a) may not be placed in the restricted section of the personnel service record of a member.

“(c) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in subsection (a) or (b) may be construed to prohibit or limit the capacity of a member of the Armed Forces to challenge or appeal the placement of a notation, or location of placement of a notation, in the member’s personnel service record in accordance with procedures otherwise applicable to such challenges or appeals.

“(d) COMMAND REVIEW OF HISTORY OF SEX-RELATED OFFENSES OF MEMBERS UPON ASSIGNMENT OR TRANSFER TO NEW UNIT.—

“(1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Under uniform regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, the commanding officer of a facility, installation, or unit to which a member of the Armed Forces described in paragraph (2) is permanently assigned or transferred shall review the history of sex-related offenses as documented in the personnel service record of the member in order to familiarize such officer with such history of the member.

“(2) COVERED MEMBERS.—A member of the Armed Forces described in this paragraph is a member of the

Armed Forces who, at the time of assignment or transfer as described in paragraph (1), has a history of one or more sex-related offenses as documented in the personnel service record of such member or such other records or files as the Secretary shall specify in the regulations prescribed under paragraph (1).”

ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL VICTIM CAPABILITIES WITHIN THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS TO RESPOND TO ALLEGATIONS OF CERTAIN SPECIAL VICTIM OFFENSES

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, §573, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1755, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT REQUIRED.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of each military department shall establish special victim capabilities for the purposes of—

“(1) investigating and prosecuting allegations of child abuse, serious domestic violence, or sexual offenses; and

“(2) providing support for the victims of such offenses.

“(b) PERSONNEL.—The special victim capabilities developed under subsection (a) shall include specially trained and selected—

“(1) investigators from the Army Criminal Investigative Command, Naval Criminal Investigative Service, or Air Force Office of Special Investigations;

“(2) judge advocates;

“(3) victim witness assistance personnel; and

“(4) administrative paralegal support personnel.

“(c) TRAINING, SELECTION, AND CERTIFICATION STANDARDS.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe standards for the training, selection, and certification of personnel who will provide special victim capabilities for a military department.

“(d) DISCRETION REGARDING EXTENT OF CAPABILITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of a military department shall determine the extent to which special victim capabilities will be established within the military department and prescribe regulations for the management and use of the special victim capabilities.

“(2) REQUIRED ELEMENTS.—At a minimum, the special victim capabilities established within a military department must provide effective, timely, and responsive world-wide support for the purposes described in subsection (a).

“(e) TIME FOR ESTABLISHMENT.—

“(1) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 2, 2013], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report containing—

“(A) the plans and time lines of the Secretaries of the military departments for the establishment of the special victims capabilities; and

“(B) an assessment by the Secretary of Defense of the plans and time lines.

“(2) INITIAL CAPABILITIES.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of each military department shall have available an initial special victim capability consisting of the personnel specified in subsection (b).

“(f) EVALUATION OF EFFECTIVENESS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall—

“(1) prescribe the common criteria to be used by the Secretaries of the military departments to measure the effectiveness and impact of the special victim capabilities from the investigative, prosecutorial, and victim’s perspectives; and

“(2) require the Secretaries of the military departments to collect and report the data used to measure such effectiveness and impact.

“(g) SPECIAL VICTIM CAPABILITIES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘special victim capabilities’ means a distinct, recognizable group of appropriately skilled professionals who work collaboratively to achieve the purposes described in subsection (a). This section does

not require that the special victim capabilities be created as separate military unit or have a separate chain of command.”

RETENTION OF CERTAIN FORMS IN CONNECTION WITH RESTRICTED REPORTS AND UNRESTRICTED REPORTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, § 577, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1762, as amended by Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, § 1723, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 970, provided that:

“(a) PERIOD OF RETENTION.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that all copies of Department of Defense Form 2910 and Department of Defense Form 2911 filed in connection with a Restricted Report or Unrestricted Report on an incident of sexual assault involving a member of the Armed Forces be retained for the longer of—

“(1) 50 years commencing on the date of signature of the member on Department of Defense Form 2910; or

“(2) the time provided for the retention of such forms in connection with Unrestricted Reports on incidents of sexual assault involving members of the Armed Forces under Department of Defense Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) 11-062, entitled ‘Document Retention in Cases of Restricted and Unrestricted Reports of Sexual Assault’, or any successor directive or policy.

“(b) PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIALITY.—Any Department of Defense form retained under subsection (a) shall be retained in a manner that protects the confidentiality of the member of the Armed Forces concerned in accordance with procedures for the protection of confidentiality of information in Restricted Reports under Department of Defense memorandum JTF-SAPR-009, relating to the Department of Defense policy on confidentiality for victims of sexual assault, or any successor policy or directive.”

GENERAL OR FLAG OFFICER REVIEW OF AND CONCURRENCE IN SEPARATION OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES MAKING AN UNRESTRICTED REPORT OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, § 578, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1763, provided that:

“(a) REVIEW REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a policy to require a general officer or flag officer of the Armed Forces to review the circumstances of, and grounds for, the proposed involuntary separation of any member of the Armed Forces who—

“(1) made an Unrestricted Report of a sexual assault;

“(2) within one year after making the Unrestricted Report of a sexual assault, is recommended for involuntary separation from the Armed Forces; and

“(3) requests the review on the grounds that the member believes the recommendation for involuntary separation from the Armed Forces was initiated in retaliation for making the report.

“(b) CONCURRENCE REQUIRED.—If a review is requested by a member of the Armed Forces as authorized by subsection (a), the concurrence of the general officer or flag officer conducting the review of the proposed involuntary separation of the member is required in order to separate the member.

“(c) SUBMISSION OF POLICY.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 2, 2013], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report containing the policy developed under subsection (a).

“(d) APPLICATION OF POLICY.—The policy developed under subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the submission of the policy to Congress under subsection (c) and apply to members of the Armed Forces described in subsection (a) who are proposed to be invol-

untarily separated from the Armed Forces on or after that date.”

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY AND PLAN FOR PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, § 579, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1763, provided that:

“(a) COMPREHENSIVE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE POLICY.—

“(1) POLICY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a comprehensive policy to prevent and respond to sexual harassment in the Armed Forces. The policy shall provide for the following:

“(A) Training for members of the Armed Forces on the prevention of sexual harassment.

“(B) Mechanisms for reporting incidents of sexual harassment in the Armed Forces, including procedures for reporting anonymously.

“(C) Mechanisms for responding to and resolving incidents of alleged sexual harassment incidences involving members of the Armed Forces, including through the prosecution of offenders.

“(2) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 2, 2013], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report setting forth the policy required by paragraph (1).

“(3) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall prepare the policy and report required by this subsection in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Equal Opportunity Office of the Department of Defense.

“(b) DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING REGARDING SUBSTANTIATED INCIDENTS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT.—

“(1) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a plan to collect information and data regarding substantiated incidents of sexual harassment involving members of the Armed Forces. The plan shall specifically deal with the need to identify cases in which a member is accused of multiple incidents of sexual harassment.

“(2) SUBMISSION OF PLAN.—Not later than June 1, 2013, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives the plan developed under paragraph (1).

“(3) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—As part of the reports required to be submitted in 2014 under section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 124 Stat. 4433; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note), the Secretary of Defense shall include information and data collected under the plan during the preceding year regarding substantiated incidents of sexual harassment involving members of the Armed Forces.”

SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATORS AND SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIM ADVOCATES

Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, § 584, Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1432, as amended by Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, § 1724, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 970; Pub. L. 117-81, div. A, title V, § 549H, Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1728, provided that:

“(a) ASSIGNMENT OF COORDINATORS.—

“(1) ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS.—At least one full-time Sexual Assault Response Coordinator shall be assigned to each brigade or equivalent unit level of the armed forces. The Secretary of the military department concerned may assign additional Sexual Assault Response Coordinators as necessary based on the demographics or needs of the unit. An additional Sexual Assault Response Coordinator may serve on a full-time or part-time basis at the discretion of the Secretary.

“(2) AVAILABILITY FOR RESERVE COMPONENT MEMBERS.—The Secretary of the military department concerned shall ensure the timely access to a Sexual

Assault Response Coordinator by any member of the National Guard or Reserve who—

“(A) is the victim of a sexual assault during the performance of duties as a member of the National Guard or Reserves; or

“(B) is the victim of a sexual assault committed by a member of the National Guard or Reserves.

“(3) ELIGIBLE PERSONS.—On and after October 1, 2013, only members of the armed forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense may be assigned to duty as a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator.

“(b) ASSIGNMENT OF VICTIM ADVOCATES.—

“(1) ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS.—At least one full-time Sexual Assault Victim Advocate shall be assigned to each brigade or equivalent unit level of the armed forces. The Secretary of the military department concerned may assign additional Victim Advocates as necessary based on the demographics or needs of the unit. An additional Victim Advocate may serve on a full-time or part-time basis at the discretion of the Secretary.

“(2) ELIGIBLE PERSONS.—On and after October 1, 2013, only members of the armed forces and civilian employees of the Department of Defense may be assigned to duty as a Victim Advocate.

“(c) TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION.—

“(1) TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION PROGRAM.—As part of the sexual assault prevention and response program, the Secretary of Defense shall establish a professional and uniform training and certification program for Sexual Assault Response Coordinators assigned under subsection (a) and Sexual Assault Victim Advocates assigned under subsection (b). The program shall be structured and administered in a manner similar to the professional training available for Equal Opportunity Advisors through the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute.

“(2) CONSULTATION.—In developing the curriculum and other components of the program, the Secretary of Defense shall work with experts outside of the Department of Defense who are experts in victim advocacy and sexual assault prevention and response training.

“(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—On and after October 1, 2013, before a member or civilian employee may be assigned to duty as a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator under subsection (a) or Victim Advocate under subsection (b), the member or employee must have completed the training program required by paragraph (1) and obtained the certification.

“(d) AUTHORIZATIONS FOR DOD SAFE HELPLINE.—

“(1) PROVIDING SUPPORT AND RECEIVING OFFICIAL REPORTS.—DoD Safe Helpline (or any successor service to DoD Safe Helpline, if any, as identified by the Secretary of Defense) is authorized to provide crisis intervention and support and to perform the intake of official reports of sexual assault from eligible adult sexual assault victims who contact the DoD Safe Helpline or other reports as directed by the Secretary of Defense.

“(2) TRAINING AND OVERSIGHT.—DoD Safe Helpline staff shall have specialized training and appropriate certification to support eligible adult sexual assault victims.

“(3) ELIGIBILITY AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations regarding eligibility for DoD Safe Helpline services, procedures for providing crisis intervention and support, and accepting reports.

“(4) ELECTRONIC RECEIPT OF OFFICIAL REPORTS OF ADULT SEXUAL ASSAULTS.—DoD Safe Helpline shall provide the ability to receive reports of adult sexual assaults through the DoD Safe Helpline website and mobile phone applications, in a secure manner consistent with appropriate protection of victim privacy, and may offer other methods of receiving electronic submission of adult sexual assault reports, as appropriate, in a manner that appropriately protects victim privacy.

“(5) TYPES OF REPORTS.—Reports of sexual assault from eligible adult sexual assault victims received by DoD Safe Helpline (or a successor as determined by the Secretary of Defense) shall include unrestricted and restricted reports, or other reports as directed by the Secretary of Defense.

“(6) OPTION FOR ENTRY INTO THE CATCH A SERIAL OFFENDER SYSTEM.—An individual making a restricted report (or a relevant successor type of report or other type of appropriate report, as determined by the Secretary of Defense) to the DoD Safe Helpline (or a successor as determined by the Secretary of Defense) shall have the option to submit information related to their report to the Catch a Serial Offender system (or its successor or similar system as determined by the Secretary of Defense).

“(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘armed forces’ means the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

“(2) The term ‘sexual assault prevention and response program’ has the meaning given such term in section 1601(a) of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note).”

TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM

Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, §1713(c), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 964, provided that: “The Secretary of Defense shall provide for the inclusion of information and discussion regarding the availability and use of the authority described by section 674 of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), as part of the training for new and prospective commanders at all levels of command required by section 585(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112-81; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note).”

Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §585, Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1434, as amended by Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, §574, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1756; Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title X, §1091(c)(2), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 876, provided that:

“(a) SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—

“(1) DEVELOPMENT OF CURRICULUM.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 31, 2011], the Secretary of each military department shall develop a curriculum to provide sexual assault prevention and response training and education for members of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretary and civilian employees of the military department to strengthen individual knowledge, skills, and capacity to prevent and respond to sexual assault. In developing the curriculum, the Secretary shall work with experts outside of the Department of Defense who are experts in sexual assault prevention and response training.

“(2) SCOPE OF TRAINING AND EDUCATION.—The sexual assault prevention and response training and education shall encompass initial entry and accession programs, annual refresher training, professional military education, peer education, and specialized leadership training. Training shall be tailored for specific leadership levels and local area requirements.

“(3) CONSISTENT TRAINING.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the sexual assault prevention and response training provided to members of the Armed Forces and Department of Defense civilian employees is consistent throughout the military departments.

“(b) INCLUSION IN PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION.—The Secretary of Defense shall provide for the inclusion of a sexual assault prevention and response training module at each level of professional military education. The training shall be tailored to the new responsibilities and leadership requirements of members of the Armed Forces as they are promoted.

“(c) INCLUSION IN FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall direct that managers of specialty skills associated with

first responders described in paragraph (2) integrate sexual assault response training in initial and recurring training courses.

“(2) COVERED FIRST RESPONDERS.—First responders referred to in paragraph (1) include firefighters, emergency medical technicians, law enforcement officers, military criminal investigators, healthcare personnel, judge advocates, and chaplains.

“(d) COMMANDERS’ TRAINING.—The Secretary of Defense shall provide for the inclusion of a sexual assault prevention and response training module in the training for new or prospective commanders at all levels of command. The training shall be tailored to the responsibilities and leadership requirements of members of the Armed Forces as they are assigned to command positions. Such training shall include the following:

“(1) Fostering a command climate that does not tolerate sexual assault.

“(2) Fostering a command climate in which persons assigned to the command are encouraged to intervene to prevent potential incidents of sexual assault.

“(3) Fostering a command climate that encourages victims of sexual assault to report any incident of sexual assault.

“(4) Understanding the needs of, and the resources available to, the victim after an incident of sexual assault.

“(5) Use of military criminal investigative organizations for the investigation of alleged incidents of sexual assault.

“(6) Available disciplinary options, including court-martial, non-judicial punishment, administrative action, and deferral of discipline for collateral misconduct, as appropriate.

“(e) EXPLANATION TO BE INCLUDED IN INITIAL ENTRY AND ACCESSION TRAINING.—

“(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall require that the matters specified in paragraph (2) be carefully explained to each member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps at the time of (or within fourteen duty days after)—

“(A) the member’s initial entrance on active duty; or

“(B) the member’s initial entrance into a duty status with a reserve component.

“(2) MATTERS TO BE EXPLAINED.—This subsection applies with respect to the following:

“(A) Department of Defense policy with respect to sexual assault.

“(B) The resources available with respect to sexual assault reporting and prevention and the procedures to be followed by a member seeking to access those resources.”

[Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title X, §1091(c), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 876, provided in part that the amendment made by section 1091(c)(2) to section 585 of Pub. L. 112-81, set out above, is effective as of Dec. 31, 2011, and as if included in Pub. L. 112-81 as enacted.]

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON RETENTION AND ACCESS TO EVIDENCE AND RECORDS RELATING TO SEXUAL ASSAULTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §586, Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1434, as amended by Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title V, §538, Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3369; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, §536, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1362, provided that:

“(a) COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON RETENTION AND ACCESS TO RECORDS.—Not later than October 1, 2012, the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, develop a comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense on the retention of and access to evidence and records relating to sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) OBJECTIVES.—The comprehensive policy required by subsection (a) shall include policies and procedures (including systems of records) necessary to ensure preservation of records and evidence for periods of time that ensure that members of the Armed Forces and vet-

erans of military service who were the victims of sexual assault during military service are able to substantiate claims for veterans benefits, to support criminal or civil prosecutions by military or civil authorities, and for such purposes relating to the documentation of the incidence of sexual assault in the Armed Forces as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.

“(c) ELEMENTS.—In developing the comprehensive policy required by subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall consider, at a minimum, the following matters:

“(1) Identification of records, including non-Department of Defense records, relating to an incident of sexual assault, that must be retained.

“(2) Criteria for collection and retention of records.

“(3) Identification of physical evidence and non-documentary forms of evidence relating to sexual assaults that must be retained.

“(4) Length of time records, including Department of Defense Forms 2910 and 2911, and evidence must be retained, except that—

“(A) the length of time physical evidence and forensic evidence must be retained shall be not less than five years; and

“(B) the length of time documentary evidence relating to sexual assaults must be retained shall be not less than the length of time investigative records relating to reports of sexual assaults of that type (restricted or unrestricted reports) must be retained.

“(5) Locations where records must be stored.

“(6) Media which may be used to preserve records and assure access, including an electronic systems [sic] of records.

“(7) Protection of privacy of individuals named in records and status of records under section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ‘Freedom of Information Act’), section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ‘Privacy Act’), restricted reporting cases, and laws related to privilege.

“(8) Access to records by victims of sexual assault, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and others, including alleged assailants and law enforcement authorities.

“(9) Responsibilities for record retention by the military departments.

“(10) Education and training on record retention requirements.

“(11) Uniform collection of data on the incidence of sexual assaults and on disciplinary actions taken in substantiated cases of sexual assault.

“(d) UNIFORM APPLICATION TO MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that, to the maximum extent practicable, the policy developed under subsection (a) is implemented uniformly by the military departments.

“(e) COPY OF RECORDS OF COURT-MARTIAL TO VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT.—[Amended section 854 of this title.]

“(f) RETURN OF PERSONAL PROPERTY UPON COMPLETION OF RELATED PROCEEDINGS IN UNRESTRICTED REPORTING CASES.—Notwithstanding subsection (c)(4)(A), personal property retained as evidence in connection with an incident of sexual assault involving a member of the Armed Forces may be returned to the rightful owner of such property after the conclusion of all legal, adverse action, and administrative proceedings related to such incident.

“(g) RETURN OF PERSONAL PROPERTY IN RESTRICTED REPORTING CASES.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe procedures under which a victim who files a restricted report on an incident of sexual assault may request, at any time, the return of any personal property of the victim obtained as part of the sexual assault forensic examination.

“(2) The procedures shall ensure that—

“(A) a request of a victim under paragraph (1) may be made on a confidential basis and without affecting the restricted nature of the restricted report; and

“(B) at the time of the filing of the restricted report, a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate—

“(i) informs the victim that the victim may request the return of personal property as described in paragraph (1); and

“(ii) advises the victim that such a request for the return of personal property may negatively impact a subsequent case adjudication, if the victim later decides to convert the restricted report to an unrestricted report.

“(3) Except with respect to personal property returned to a victim under this subsection, nothing in this subsection shall affect the requirement to retain a sexual assault forensic examination (SAFE) kit for the period specified in subsection (c)(4)(A).”

[Pub. L. 116-92, §536(1), amended section 586 of Pub. L. 112-81, set out above, by redesignating subsec. (f) as (e), resulting in two subsecs. designated (e).]

IMPROVED SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title V, §538, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1393, provided that: “Beginning with the reports required to be submitted by March 1, 2019, under section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note), information regarding a sexual assault committed by a member of the Armed Forces against the spouse or intimate partner of the member or another dependent of the member shall be included in such reports in addition to the annual Family Advocacy Program report. The information may be included as an annex to such reports.”

Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, §572, Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1753, as amended by Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, §1721, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 970, provided that:

“(a) POLICY MODIFICATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 2, 2013], the Secretary of Defense shall modify the revised comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense sexual assault prevention and response program required by section 1602 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 124 Stat. 4430; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note) to include in the policy the following new requirements:

“(1) Subject to subsection (b), a requirement that the Secretary of each military department establish a record on the disposition of any Unrestricted Report of sexual assault involving a member of the Armed Forces, whether such disposition is court martial, nonjudicial punishment, or other administrative action.

“(2) A requirement that the Secretary of each military department establish policies to require the processing for administrative separation of any member of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of such Secretary whose conviction for a covered offense is final and who is not punitively discharged from the Armed Forces in connection with such conviction. Such requirement—

“(A) shall ensure that any separation decision is based on the full facts of the case and that due process procedures are provided under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense; and

“(B) shall not be interpreted to limit or alter the authority of the Secretary of the military department concerned to process members of the Armed Forces for administrative separation for other offenses or under other provisions of law.

“(3) A requirement that the commander of each military command and other units specified by the Secretary of Defense for purposes of the policy shall conduct, within 120 days after the commander assumes command and at least annually thereafter while retaining command, a climate assessment of the command or unit for purposes of preventing and responding to sexual assaults. The climate assessment shall include an opportunity for members of the

Armed Forces to express their opinions regarding the manner and extent to which their leaders, including commanders, respond to allegations of sexual assault and complaints of sexual harassment and the effectiveness of such response.

“(4) A requirement to post and widely disseminate information about resources available to report and respond to sexual assaults, including the establishment of hotline phone numbers and Internet websites available to all members of the Armed Forces.

“(5) A requirement for a general education campaign to notify members of the Armed Forces regarding the authorities available under chapter 79 of title 10, United States Code, for the correction of military records when a member experiences any retaliatory personnel action for making a report of sexual assault or sexual harassment.

“(b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS REGARDING DISPOSITION RECORDS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT REPORTS.—

“(1) ELEMENTS.—The record of the disposition of an Unrestricted Report of sexual assault established under subsection (a)(1) shall include information regarding the following, as appropriate:

“(A) Documentary information collected about the incident, other than investigator case notes.

“(B) Punishment imposed, including the sentencing by judicial or non-judicial means, including incarceration, fines, restriction, and extra duty as a result of military court-martial, Federal or local court and other sentencing, or any other punishment imposed.

“(C) Adverse administrative actions taken against the subject of the investigation, if any.

“(D) Any pertinent referrals made for the subject of the investigation, offered as a result of the incident, such as drug and alcohol counseling and other types of counseling or intervention.

“(2) RETENTION OF RECORDS.—The Secretary of Defense shall require that—

“(A) the disposition records established pursuant to subsection (a)(1) be retained for a period of not less than 20 years; and

“(B) information from the records that satisfies the reporting requirements established in section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111-383; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note) be incorporated into the Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database and maintained for the same period as applies to retention of the records under subparagraph (A).

“(c) COVERED OFFENSE DEFINED.—For purposes of subsection (a)(2), the term ‘covered offense’ means the following:

“(1) Rape or sexual assault under subsection (a) or (b) of section 920 of title 10, United States Code (article 120 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

“(2) Forcible sodomy under section 925 of title 10, United States Code (article 125 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

“(3) An attempt to commit an offense specified in paragraph (1) or (2) under section 880 of title 10, United States Code (article 80 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

“(d) TRACKING OF ORGANIZATIONAL CLIMATE ASSESSMENT COMPLIANCE.—The Secretary of Defense shall direct the Secretaries of the military departments to verify and track the compliance of commanding officers in conducting organizational climate assessments, as required by subsection (a)(3).”

Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title XVI, Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4429, as amended by Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §583, Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1432; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title V, §575(a), (b), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1757, 1758; Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, §§1725(a), 1726, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 971, 972; Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title V, §542(a), (b), title X, §1071(i), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3372, 3373, 3512; Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title V, §§543, 544, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2127; Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title V, §537(a), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1392; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §537(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3605; Pub. L. 117-81, div.

A, title V, §549I, Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1729, provided that:

“SEC. 1601. DEFINITION OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM AND OTHER DEFINITIONS.

“(a) SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this title, the term ‘sexual assault prevention and response program’ refers to Department of Defense policies and programs, including policies and programs of a specific military department or Armed Force, that, as modified as required by this title—

“(1) are intended to reduce the number of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces, whether members are the victim, alleged assailant, or both; and

“(2) improve the response of the Department of Defense, the military departments, and the Armed Forces to reports of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces, whether members are the victim, alleged assailant, or both, and to reports of sexual assaults when a covered beneficiary under chapter 55 of title 10, United States Code, is the victim.

“(b) OTHER DEFINITIONS.—In this title:

“(1) The term ‘Armed Forces’ means the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps.

“(2) The terms ‘covered beneficiary’ and ‘dependent’ have the meanings given those terms in section 1072 of title 10, United States Code.

“(3) The term ‘department’ has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(6) of title 10, United States Code.

“(4) The term ‘military installation’ has the meaning given that term by the Secretary concerned.

“(5) The term ‘Secretary concerned’ means—

“(A) the Secretary of the Army, with respect to matters concerning the Army;

“(B) the Secretary of the Navy, with respect to matters concerning the Navy and the Marine Corps; and

“(C) the Secretary of the Air Force, with respect to matters concerning the Air Force.

“(6) The term ‘sexual assault’ has the definition developed for that term by the Secretary of Defense pursuant to subsection (a)(3) of section 577 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 108-375; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) [now set out below], subject to such modifications as the Secretary considers appropriate.

“SEC. 1602. COMPREHENSIVE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY ON SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM.

“(a) COMPREHENSIVE POLICY REQUIRED.—Not later than March 30, 2012, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a revised comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense sexual assault prevention and response program that—

“(1) builds upon the comprehensive sexual assault prevention and response policy developed under subsections (a) and (b) of section 577 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 108-375; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) [now set out below];

“(2) incorporates into the sexual assault prevention and response program the new requirements identified by this title; and

“(3) ensures that the policies and procedures of the military departments regarding sexual assault prevention and response are consistent with the revised comprehensive policy.

“(b) CONSIDERATION OF TASK FORCE FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND PRACTICES.—In developing the comprehensive policy required by subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall take into account the findings and recommendations found in the report of the Defense Task Force on Sexual Assault in the Military Services issued in December 2009.

“(c) SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE EVALUATION PLAN.—

“(1) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop and implement an evaluation plan for assessing the effectiveness of the comprehensive policy prepared under subsection (a) in achieving its intended outcomes at the department and individual Armed Force levels.

“(2) ROLE OF SERVICE SECRETARIES.—As a component of the evaluation plan, the Secretary of each military department shall assess the adequacy of measures undertaken at military installations and by units of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretary to ensure the safest and most secure living and working environments with regard to preventing sexual assault.

“(d) PROGRESS REPORT.—Not later than October 1, 2011, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report—

“(1) describing the process by which the comprehensive policy required by subsection (a) is being revised;

“(2) describing the extent to which revisions of the comprehensive policy and the evaluation plan required by subsection (c) have already been implemented; and

“(3) containing a determination by the Secretary regarding whether the Secretary will be able to comply with the revision deadline specified in subsection (a).

“(e) CONSISTENCY OF TERMINOLOGY, POSITION DESCRIPTIONS, PROGRAM STANDARDS, AND ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall require the use of consistent terminology, position descriptions, minimum program standards, and organizational structures throughout the Armed Forces in implementing the sexual assault prevention and response program.

“(2) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish minimum standards for—

“(A) the qualifications necessary for a member of the Armed Forces or a civilian employee of the Department of Defense to be selected for assignment to duty as a Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Program Manager, Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, or Sexual Assault Victim Advocate, whether assigned to such duty on a full-time or part-time basis;

“(B) consistent with section 584(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (Public Law 112-81; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note; 125 Stat. 1433), the training, certification, and status of members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the department assigned to duty as Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Program Managers, Sexual Assault Response Coordinators, and Sexual Assault Victim Advocates for the Armed Forces; and

“(C) the curricula to be used to provide sexual assault prevention and response training and education for members of the Armed Forces and civilian employees of the department to strengthen individual knowledge, skills, and capacity to prevent and respond to sexual assault.

“(3) RECOGNIZING OPERATIONAL DIFFERENCES.—In complying with this subsection, the Secretary of Defense shall take into account the responsibilities of the Secretary concerned and operational needs of the Armed Force involved.

“SUBTITLE A—ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND APPLICATION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM ELEMENTS

“SEC. 1611. SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OFFICE.

“(a) APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR.—There shall be a Director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, who shall be appointed from among general or flag officers of the Armed Forces or employees of the

Department of Defense in a comparable Senior Executive Service position. During the development and implementation of the comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense sexual assault prevention and response program, the Director shall operate under the oversight of the Advisory Working Group of the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

“(b) DUTIES OF DIRECTOR.—The Director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office shall—

“(1) oversee implementation of the comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense sexual assault prevention and response program;

“(2) serve as the single point of authority, accountability, and oversight for the sexual assault prevention and response program;

“(3) provide oversight to ensure that the military departments comply with the sexual assault prevention and response program;

“(4) collect and maintain data of the military departments on sexual assault in accordance with subsection (e);

“(5) act as liaison between the Department of Defense and other Federal and State agencies on programs and efforts relating to sexual assault prevention and response; and

“(6) oversee development of strategic program guidance and joint planning objectives for resources in support of the sexual assault prevention and response program, and make recommendations on modifications to policy, law, and regulations needed to ensure the continuing availability of such resources.

“(c) ROLE OF INSPECTORS GENERAL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Inspector General of the Army, the Naval Inspector General, and the Inspector General of the Air Force shall treat the sexual assault prevention and response program as an item of special interest when conducting inspections of organizations and activities with responsibilities regarding the prevention and response to sexual assault.

“(2) COMPOSITION OF INVESTIGATION TEAMS.—The Inspector General inspection teams shall include at least one member with expertise and knowledge of sexual assault prevention and response policies related to a specific Armed Force.

“(d) STAFF.—

“(1) ASSIGNMENT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 7, 2011], an officer from each of the Armed Forces in the grade of O-4 or above shall be assigned to the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office for a minimum tour length of at least 18 months.

“(2) HIGHER GRADE.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), of the four officers assigned to the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office under this subsection at any time, one officer shall be in the grade of O-6 or above.

“(e) DATA COLLECTION AND MAINTENANCE METRICS.—In carrying out the requirements of subsection (b)(4), the Director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office shall develop metrics to measure the effectiveness of, and compliance with, training and awareness objectives of the military departments on sexual assault prevention and response.

“SEC. 1612. OVERSIGHT AND EVALUATION STANDARDS.

“(a) ISSUANCE OF STANDARDS.—The Secretary of Defense shall issue standards to assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the sexual assault prevention and response program of each Armed Force in reducing the number of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces and in improving the response of the department to reports of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces, whether members of the Armed Forces are the victim, alleged assailant, or both.

“(b) SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION EVALUATION PLAN.—The Secretary of Defense shall use the sexual assault prevention and response evaluation plan devel-

oped under section 1602(c) to ensure that the Armed Forces implement and comply with assessment and evaluation standards issued under subsection (a).

“SEC. 1613. REPORT AND PLAN FOR COMPLETION OF ACQUISITION OF CENTRALIZED DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT DATABASE.

“(a) REPORT AND PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than April 1, 2011, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report—

“(1) describing the status of development and implementation of the centralized Department of Defense sexual assault database required by section 563 of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110-417; 122 Stat. 4470; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) [now set out below];

“(2) containing a revised implementation plan under subsection (c) of such section for completing implementation of the database; and

“(3) indicating the date by which the database will be operational.

“(b) CONTENT OF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.—The plan referred to in subsection (a)(2) shall address acquisition best practices associated with successfully acquiring and deploying information technology systems related to the centralized sexual assault database, such as economically justifying the proposed system solution and effectively developing and managing requirements.

“SEC. 1614. RESTRICTED REPORTING OF SEXUAL ASSAULTS.

“The Secretary of Defense shall clarify the limitations on the ability of a member of the Armed Forces to make a restricted report regarding the occurrence of a sexual assault and the circumstances under which information contained in a restricted report may no longer be confidential.

“SUBTITLE B—IMPROVED AND EXPANDED AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

“SEC. 1621. IMPROVED PROTOCOLS FOR PROVIDING MEDICAL CARE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT.

“The Secretary of Defense shall establish comprehensive and consistent protocols for providing and documenting medical care to a member of the Armed Forces or covered beneficiary who is a victim of a sexual assault, including protocols with respect to the appropriate screening, prevention, and mitigation of diseases. In establishing the protocols, the Secretary shall take into consideration the gender of the victim.

“SEC. 1622. SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS ACCESS TO VICTIM ADVOCATE SERVICES.

“(a) AVAILABILITY OF VICTIM ADVOCATE SERVICES.—

“(1) AVAILABILITY.—A member of the Armed Forces or a dependent, as described in paragraph (2), who is the victim of a sexual assault is entitled to assistance provided by a qualified Sexual Assault Victim Advocate.

“(2) COVERED DEPENDENTS.—The assistance described in paragraph (1) is available to a dependent of a member of the Armed Forces who is the victim of a sexual assault and who resides on or in the vicinity of a military installation. The Secretary concerned shall define the term “vicinity” for purposes of this paragraph.

“(b) NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ASSISTANCE; OPT OUT.—The member or dependent shall be informed of the availability of assistance under subsection (a) as soon as the member or dependent seeks assistance from a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator. The victim shall also be informed that the services of a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator and Sexual Assault Victim Advocate are optional and that these services may be declined, in whole or in part, at any time.

“(c) NATURE OF REPORTING IMMATERIAL.—In the case of a member of the Armed Forces, Victim Advocate services are available regardless of whether the mem-

ber elects unrestricted or restricted (confidential) reporting of the sexual assault.

“SUBTITLE C—REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

“SEC. 1631. ANNUAL REPORT REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND IMPROVEMENT TO SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM.

“(a) ANNUAL REPORTS ON SEXUAL ASSAULTS.—Not later than March 1, 2012, and each March 1 thereafter through March 1, 2026, the Secretary of each military department shall submit to the Secretary of Defense a report on the sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of that Secretary during the preceding year. In the case of the Secretary of the Navy, separate reports shall be prepared for the Navy and for the Marine Corps.

“(b) CONTENTS.—The report of a Secretary of a military department for an Armed Force under subsection (a) shall contain the following:

“(1) The number of sexual assaults committed against members of the Armed Force that were reported to military officials during the year covered by the report, and the number of the cases so reported that were substantiated.

“(2) The number of sexual assaults committed by members of the Armed Force that were reported to military officials during the year covered by the report, and the number of the cases so reported that were substantiated. The information required by this paragraph may not be combined with the information required by paragraph (1).

“(3) A synopsis of each such substantiated case, organized by offense, and, for each such case, the action taken in the case, including the type of disciplinary or administrative sanction imposed, if any, including courts-martial sentences, non-judicial punishments administered by commanding officers pursuant to section 815 of title 10, United States Code (article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), and administrative separations.

“(4) The policies, procedures, and processes implemented by the Secretary concerned during the year covered by the report in response to incidents of sexual assault involving members of the Armed Force concerned.

“(5) The number of substantiated sexual assault cases in which the victim is a deployed member of the Armed Forces and the assailant is a foreign national, and the policies, procedures, and processes implemented by the Secretary concerned to monitor the investigative processes and disposition of such cases and any actions taken to eliminate any gaps in investigating and adjudicating such cases.

“(6) A description of the implementation of the accessibility plan implemented pursuant to section 596(b) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109-163; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note), including a description of the steps taken during that year to ensure that trained personnel, appropriate supplies, and transportation resources are accessible to deployed units in order to provide an appropriate and timely response in any case of reported sexual assault in a deployed unit, location, or environment.

“(7) The number of applications submitted under section 673 of title 10, United States Code, during the year covered by the report for a permanent change of station or unit transfer for members of the Armed Forces on active duty who are the victim of a sexual assault or related offense, the number of applications denied, and, for each application denied, a description of the reasons why the application was denied.

“(8) An analysis and assessment of trends in the incidence, disposition, and prosecution of sexual assaults by units, commands, and installations during the year covered by the report, including trends relating to prevalence of incidents, prosecution of incidents, and avoidance of incidents.

“(9) An assessment of the adequacy of sexual assault prevention and response activities carried out by training commands during the year covered by the report.

“(10) An analysis of the specific factors that may have contributed to sexual assault during the year covered by the report, an assessment of the role of such factors in contributing to sexual assaults during that year, and recommendations for mechanisms to eliminate or reduce the incidence of such factors or their contributions to sexual assaults.

“(11) An analysis of the disposition of the most serious offenses occurring during sexual assaults committed by members of the Armed Force during the year covered by the report, as identified in unrestricted reports of sexual assault by any members of the Armed Forces, including the numbers of reports identifying offenses that were disposed of by each of the following:

“(A) Conviction by court-martial, including a separate statement of the most serious charge preferred and the most serious charge for which convicted.

“(B) Acquittal of all charges at court-martial.

“(C) Non-judicial punishment under section 815 of title 10, United States Code (article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

“(D) Administrative action, including by each type of administrative action imposed.

“(E) Dismissal of all charges, including by reason for dismissal and by stage of proceedings in which dismissal occurred.

“(12) Information on each claim of retaliation in connection with a report of sexual assault in the Armed Force made by or against a member of such Armed Force as follows:

“(A) A narrative description of each complaint.

“(B) The nature of such complaint, including whether the complainant claims professional or social retaliation.

“(C) The gender of the complainant.

“(D) The gender of the individual claimed to have committed the retaliation.

“(E) The nature of the relationship between the complainant and the individual claimed to have committed the retaliation.

“(F) The nature of the relationship, if any, between the individual alleged to have committed the sexual assault concerned and the individual claimed to have committed the retaliation.

“(G) The official or office that received the complaint.

“(H) The organization that investigated or is investigating the complaint.

“(I) The current status of the investigation.

“(J) If the investigation is complete, a description of the results of the investigation, including whether the results of the investigation were provided to the complainant.

“(K) If the investigation determined that retaliation occurred, whether the retaliation was an offense under chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

“(13) Information and data collected through formal and informal reports of sexual harassment involving members of the Armed Forces during the year covered by the report, as follows:

“(A) The number of substantiated and unsubstantiated reports.

“(B) A synopsis of each substantiated report.

“(C) The action taken in the case of each substantiated report, including the type of disciplinary or administrative sanction imposed, if any, such as—

“(i) conviction and sentence by court-martial;

“(ii) imposition of non-judicial punishment under section 815 of title 10, United States Code (article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice); or

“(iii) administrative separation or other type of administrative action imposed.

“(14) Information and data collected during the year covered by the report on each reported incident involving the nonconsensual distribution by a person subject to chapter 47 of title 10, United States Code (the Uniform Code of Military Justice), of a private sexual image of another person, including the following:

“(A) The number of substantiated and unsubstantiated reports.

“(B) A synopsis of each substantiated report.

“(C) The action taken in the case of each substantiated report, including the type of disciplinary or administrative sanction imposed, if any, such as—

“(i) conviction and sentence by court-martial;

“(ii) imposition of non-judicial punishment under section 815 of title 10, United States Code (article 15 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice); or

“(iii) administrative separation or other type of administrative action imposed.

“(c) CONSISTENT DEFINITION OF SUBSTANTIATED.—Not later than December 31, 2011, the Secretary of Defense shall establish a consistent definition of ‘substantiated’ for purposes of paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (5) of subsection (b) and provide synopses for those cases for the preparation of reports under this section.

“(d) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than April 30 of each year in which the Secretary of Defense receives reports under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall forward the reports to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives and the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives, together with—

“(1) the results of assessments conducted under the evaluation plan required by section 1602(c);

“(2) an assessment of the information submitted to the Secretary pursuant to subsection (b)(11); and

“(3) such other assessments on the reports as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.

“(e) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

“(1) [Amended section 577 of Pub. L. 108–375, set out below.]

“(2) SUBMISSION OF 2010 REPORT.—The reports required by subsection (f) of section 577 of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 108–375; 10 U.S.C. 113 note) [now set out below] covering calendar year 2010 are still required to be submitted to the Secretary of Defense and the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives pursuant to the terms of such subsection, as in effect before the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 7, 2011].

“(f) ADDITIONAL DETAILS FOR CASE SYNOPSIS PORTION OF REPORT.—The Secretary of each military department shall include in the case synopses portion of each report described in subsection (b)(3) the following additional information:

“(1) If charges are dismissed following an investigation conducted under section 832 of title 10, United States Code (article 32 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice), the case synopsis shall include the reason for the dismissal of the charges.

“(2) If the case synopsis states that a member of the Armed Forces accused of committing a sexual assault was administratively separated or, in the case of an officer, allowed to resign in lieu of facing a court-martial, the case synopsis shall include the characterization (honorable, general, or other than honorable) given the service of the member upon separation.

“(3) The case synopsis shall indicate whether a member of the Armed Forces accused of committing a sexual assault was ever previously accused of a substantiated sexual assault or was admitted to the Armed Forces under a moral waiver granted with respect to prior sexual misconduct.

“(4) The case synopsis shall indicate the branch of the Armed Forces of each member accused of com-

mitting a sexual assault and the branch of the Armed Forces of each member who is a victim of a sexual assault.

“(5) If the case disposition includes non-judicial punishment, the case synopsis shall explicitly state the nature of the punishment.

“(6) The case synopsis shall indicate whether alcohol was involved in any way in a substantiated sexual assault incident.

“(g) COORDINATION OF RELEASE DATE BETWEEN ANNUAL REPORTS REGARDING SEXUAL ASSAULTS AND FAMILY ADVOCACY REPORT.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the reports required under subsection (a) for a given year are delivered to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives simultaneously with the Family Advocacy Program report for that year regarding child abuse and domestic violence, as required by section 574 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 [Pub. L. 114–328, 130 Stat. 2141].

“SEC. 1632. ADDITIONAL REPORTS.

“(a) EXTENSION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE SERVICES TO ADDITIONAL PERSONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall evaluate the feasibility of extending department sexual assault prevention and response services to Department of Defense civilian employees and employees of defense contractors who—

“(1) are victims of a sexual assault; and

“(2) work on or in the vicinity of a military installation or with members of the Armed Forces.

“(b) EXTENSION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE PROGRAM TO RESERVE COMPONENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall evaluate the application of the sexual assault prevention and response program to members of the reserve components, including, at a minimum, the following:

“(1) The ability of members of the reserve components to access the services available under the sexual assault prevention and response program, including policies and programs of a specific military department or Armed Force.

“(2) The quality of training provided to Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Sexual Assault Victim Advocates in the reserve components.

“(3) The degree to which the services available for regular and reserve members under the sexual assault prevention and response program are integrated.

“(4) Such recommendations as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate on how to improve the services available for reserve members under the sexual assault prevention and response program and their access to the services.

“(c) COPY OF RECORD OF COURT-MARTIAL TO VICTIM OF SEXUAL ASSAULT.—The Secretary of Defense shall evaluate the feasibility of requiring that a copy of the prepared record of the proceedings of a general or special court-martial involving a sexual assault be given to the victim in cases in which the victim testified during the proceedings.

“(d) ACCESS TO LEGAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Defense shall evaluate the feasibility of authorizing members of the Armed Forces who are victims of a sexual assault and dependents of members who are victims of a sexual assault to receive legal assistance provided by a military legal assistance counsel certified as competent to provide legal assistance related to responding to sexual assault.

“(e) USE OF FORENSIC MEDICAL EXAMINERS.—The Secretary of Defense shall evaluate the feasibility of utilizing, when sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces occur in a military environment where civilian resources are limited or unavailable, forensic medical examiners who are specially trained regarding the collection and preservation of evidence in cases involving sexual assault.

“(f) SUBMISSION OF RESULTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall submit the results of the evaluations required by this section to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives.”

[Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title V, §537(b), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3605, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending section 1631 of Pub. L. 111–383, set out above] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 1, 2021] and shall apply to reports required to be submitted under such section on or after such date.”]

[Pub. L. 115–91, div. A, title V, §537(b), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1393, provided that: “The amendment made by this section [amending section 1631 of Pub. L. 111–383, set out above] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 12, 2017] and apply beginning with the reports required to be submitted by March 1, 2020, under section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 (Public Law 111–383; 10 U.S.C. 1561 note).”]

[Pub. L. 113–291, div. A, title V, §542(c), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3373, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending section 1631 of Pub. L. 111–383, set out above] shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 19, 2014] and apply beginning with the report regarding sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces required to be submitted by March 1, 2015, under section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 [Pub. L. 111–383].”]

[Pub. L. 112–239, div. A, title V, §575(c), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1758, provided that: “The amendments made by this section [amending section 1631 of Pub. L. 111–383, set out above] shall apply beginning with the report regarding sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces required to be submitted by March 1, 2014, under section 1631 of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011 [Pub. L. 111–383].”]

[For termination, effective Dec. 31, 2021, of annual reporting provisions in section 1631(d) of Pub. L. 111–383, set out above, see section 1061 of Pub. L. 114–328, set out as a note under section 111 of this title.]

DEFENSE INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM AND DEFENSE SEXUAL ASSAULT INCIDENT DATABASE

Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title V, §598, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2345, provided that: “Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 28, 2009], and every six months thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report detailing the progress of the Secretary with respect to the completion of the following:

“(1) The Defense Incident-Based Reporting System.

“(2) The Defense Sexual Assault Incident Database.”

Pub. L. 110–417, [div. A], title V, §563(a)–(d), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4470, 4471, as amended by Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title VIII, §809(b)(3), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1840; Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title X, §1081(d)(3), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3874, provided that:

“(a) DATABASE REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall implement a centralized, case-level database for the collection, in a manner consistent with Department of Defense regulations for restricted reporting, and maintenance of information regarding sexual assaults involving a member of the Armed Forces, including information, if available, about the nature of the assault, the victim, the offender, and the outcome of any legal proceedings in connection with the assault.

“(b) AVAILABILITY OF DATABASE.—The database required by subsection (a) shall be available to personnel of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Department of Defense.

“(c) IMPLEMENTATION.—

“(1) PLAN FOR IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 14, 2008], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a plan to provide for the implementation of the database required by subsection (a).

“(2) RELATION TO DEFENSE INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives a report containing—

“(A) a description of the current status of the Defense Incident-Based Reporting System; and

“(B) an explanation of how the Defense Incident-Based Reporting System will relate to the database required by subsection (a).

“(3) COMPLETION.—Not later than 15 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete implementation of the database required by subsection (a).

“(d) REPORTS.—The database required by subsection (a) shall be used to develop and implement congressional reports, as required by—

“(1) section 577(f) of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005 (Public Law 108–375) [set out below];

“(2) section 596(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (Public Law 109–163) [amending Pub. L. 108–375, §577, set out below];

“(3) section 532 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (Public Law 109–364) [enacting sections 4361, 6980, and 9361 of this title and provisions set out as a note under section 4361 of this title and repealing provisions set out as a note under section 4331 of this title]; and

“(4) sections 7461, 8480, and 9461 of title 10, United States Code.”

IMPROVEMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO SEXUAL ASSAULT AFFECTING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 109–163, div. A, title V, §596(a), (b), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3282, provided that:

“(a) PLAN FOR SYSTEM TO TRACK CASES IN WHICH CARE OR PROSECUTION HINDERED BY LACK OF AVAILABILITY.—

“(1) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop and implement a system to track cases under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense in which care to a victim of rape or sexual assault, or the investigation or prosecution of an alleged perpetrator of rape or sexual assault, is hindered by the lack of availability of a rape kit or other needed supplies or by the lack of timely access to appropriate laboratory testing resources.

“(2) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The Secretary shall submit the plan developed under paragraph (1) to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 6, 2006].

“(b) ACCESSIBILITY PLAN FOR DEPLOYED UNITS.—

“(1) PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop and implement a plan for ensuring accessibility and availability of supplies, trained personnel, and transportation resources for responding to sexual assaults occurring in deployed units. The plan shall include the following:

“(A) A plan for the training of personnel who are considered to be ‘first responders’ to sexual assaults (including criminal investigators, medical personnel responsible for rape kit evidence collection, and victims advocates), such training to include current techniques on the processing of evidence, including rape kits, and on conducting investigations.

“(B) A plan for ensuring the availability at military hospitals of supplies needed for the treatment of victims of sexual assault who present at a military hospital, including rape kits, equipment for processing rape kits, and supplies for testing and treatment for sexually transmitted infections and diseases, including HIV, and for testing for pregnancy.

“(2) SUBMITTAL TO CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The Secretary shall submit the plan developed under

paragraph (1) to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 6, 2006].”

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ASSAULTS INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title V, § 567(c), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2314, provided that:

“(1) REQUIREMENT FOR DATA COLLECTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, information shall be collected on—

“(i) whether a military protective order was issued that involved either the victim or alleged perpetrator of a sexual assault; and

“(ii) whether military protective orders involving members of the Armed Forces were violated in the course of substantiated incidents of sexual assaults against members of the Armed Forces.

“(B) SUBMISSION OF DATA.—The data required to be collected under this subsection shall be included in the annual report submitted to Congress on sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(2) INFORMATION TO MEMBERS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 28, 2009], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report explaining the measures being taken to ensure that, when a military protective order has been issued, the member of the Armed Forces who is protected by the order is informed, in a timely manner, of the member’s option to request transfer from the command to which the member is assigned.”

Pub. L. 108–375, div. A, title V, § 577, Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 1926, as amended by Pub. L. 109–163, div. A, title V, § 596(c), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3283; Pub. L. 109–364, div. A, title V, § 583, Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2230; Pub. L. 110–417, [div. A], title V, § 563(e), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4471; Pub. L. 111–383, div. A, title X, § 1075(i)(1), title XVI, § 1631(e)(1), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4377, 4435, provided that:

“(a) COMPREHENSIVE POLICY ON PREVENTION AND RESPONSE TO SEXUAL ASSAULTS.—(1) Not later than January 1, 2005, the Secretary of Defense shall develop a comprehensive policy for the Department of Defense on the prevention of and response to sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(2) The policy shall be based on the recommendations of the Department of Defense Task Force on Care for Victims of Sexual Assaults and on such other matters as the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(3) Before developing the comprehensive policy required by paragraph (1), the Secretary of Defense shall develop a definition of sexual assault. The definition so developed shall be used in the comprehensive policy under paragraph (1) and otherwise within the Department of Defense and Coast Guard in matters involving members of the Armed Forces. The definition shall be uniform for all the Armed Forces and shall be developed in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments and the Secretary of Homeland Security with respect to the Coast Guard.

“(b) ELEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE POLICY.—The comprehensive policy developed under subsection (a) shall, at a minimum, address the following matters:

“(1) Prevention measures.

“(2) Education and training on prevention and response.

“(3) Investigation of complaints by command and law enforcement personnel.

“(4) Medical treatment of victims.

“(5) Confidential reporting of incidents.

“(6) Victim advocacy and intervention.

“(7) Oversight by commanders of administrative and disciplinary actions in response to substantiated incidents of sexual assault.

“(8) Disposition of victims of sexual assault, including review by appropriate authority of administrative separation actions involving victims of sexual assault.

“(9) Disposition of members of the Armed Forces accused of sexual assault.

“(10) Liaison and collaboration with civilian agencies on the provision of services to victims of sexual assault.

“(11) Uniform collection of data on the incidence of sexual assaults and on disciplinary actions taken in substantiated cases of sexual assault.

“(12) Implementation of clear, consistent, and streamlined sexual assault terminology for use throughout the Department of Defense.

“(c) REPORT ON IMPROVEMENT OF CAPABILITY TO RESPOND TO SEXUAL ASSAULTS.—Not later than March 1, 2005, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a proposal for such legislation as the Secretary considers necessary to enhance the capability of the Department of Defense to address matters relating to sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(d) APPLICATION OF COMPREHENSIVE POLICY TO MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that, to the maximum extent practicable, the policy developed under subsection (a) is implemented uniformly by the military departments.

“(e) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES OF MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.—(1) Not later than March 1, 2005, the Secretaries of the military departments shall prescribe regulations, or modify current regulations, on the policies and procedures of the military departments on the prevention of and response to sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces in order—

“(A) to conform such policies and procedures to the policy developed under subsection (a); and

“(B) to ensure that such policies and procedures include the elements specified in paragraph (2).

“(2) The elements specified in this paragraph are as follows:

“(A) A program to promote awareness of the incidence of sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(B) A program to provide victim advocacy and intervention for members of the Armed Force concerned who are victims of sexual assault, which program shall make available, at home stations and in deployed locations, trained advocates who are readily available to intervene on behalf of such victims.

“(C) Procedures for members of the Armed Force concerned to follow in the case of an incident of sexual assault involving a member of such Armed Force, including—

“(i) specification of the person or persons to whom the alleged offense should be reported;

“(ii) specification of any other person whom the victim should contact;

“(iii) procedures for the preservation of evidence; and

“(iv) procedures for confidential reporting and for contacting victim advocates.

“(D) Procedures for disciplinary action in cases of sexual assault by members of the Armed Force concerned.

“(E) Other sanctions authorized to be imposed in substantiated cases of sexual assault, whether forcible or nonforcible, by members of the Armed Force concerned.

“(F) Training on the policies and procedures for all members of the Armed Force concerned, including specific training for members of the Armed Force concerned who process allegations of sexual assault against members of such Armed Force.

“(G) Any other matters that the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate.”

REPORTS

Pub. L. 105–85, div. A, title V, § 591(b), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1762, required each officer receiving a complaint forwarded in accordance with subsec. (b) of this section

during 1997 and 1998 to submit to the Secretary of the military department concerned a report on all such complaints and the investigations of such complaints not later than Jan. 1 of each of 1998 and 1999, required each Secretary receiving a report for a year to submit to the Secretary of Defense a report on all reports received not later than Mar. 1 of each of 1998 and 1999, and required the Secretary of Defense to transmit to Congress all reports received for the year together with the Secretary's assessment of each report not later than Apr. 1 following receipt of a report for a year.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
ON DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Pub. L. 103-337, div. A, title V, §532, Oct. 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 2759, provided that:

“(a) REPORT OF TASK FORCE.—(1) The Department of Defense Task Force on Discrimination and Sexual Harassment, constituted by the Secretary of Defense on March 15, 1994, shall transmit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense not later than October 1, 1994.

“(2) The Secretary shall transmit to Congress the report of the task force not later than October 10, 1994.

“(b) SECRETARIAL REVIEW.—Not later than 45 days after receiving the report under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

“(1) review the recommendations for action contained in the report;

“(2) determine which recommendations the Secretary approves for implementation and which recommendations the Secretary disapproves; and

“(3) submit to Congress a report that—

“(A) identifies the approved recommendations and the disapproved recommendations; and

“(B) explains the reasons for each such approval and disapproval.

“(c) COMPREHENSIVE DOD POLICY.—(1) Based on the approved recommendations of the task force and such other factors as the Secretary considers appropriate, the Secretary shall develop a comprehensive Department of Defense policy for processing complaints of sexual harassment and discrimination involving members of the Armed Forces under the jurisdiction of the Secretary.

“(2) The Secretary shall issue policy guidance for the implementation of the comprehensive policy and shall require the Secretaries of the military departments to prescribe regulations to implement that policy not later than March 1, 1995.

“(3) The Secretary shall ensure that the policy is implemented uniformly by the military departments insofar as practicable.

“(4) Not later than March 31, 1995, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a proposal for any legislation necessary to enhance the capability of the Department of Defense to address the issues of unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment.

“(d) MILITARY DEPARTMENT POLICIES.—(1) The Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force shall review and revise the regulations of the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Air Force, respectively, relating to equal opportunity policy and procedures in that Department for the making of, and responding to, complaints of unlawful discrimination and sexual harassment in order to ensure that those regulations are substantially equivalent to the regulations of the Department of the Army on such matters.

“(2) In revising regulations pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Navy and the Secretary of the Air Force may make such additions and modifications as the Secretary of Defense determines appropriate to strengthen those regulations beyond the substantial equivalent of the Army regulations in accordance with—

“(A) the approved recommendations of the Department of Defense Task Force on Discrimination and Sexual Harassment; and

“(B) the experience of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps regarding equal opportunity cases.

“(3) The Secretary of the Army shall review the regulations of the Department of the Army relating to equal opportunity policy and complaint procedures and revise the regulations as the Secretary of Defense considers appropriate to strengthen the regulations in accordance with the recommendations and experience described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (2).

“(e) REPORT OF ADVISORY BOARD.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall direct the Advisory Board on the Investigative Capability of the Department of Defense, established by the Secretary of Defense in November 1993, to include in its report to the Secretary (scheduled to be transmitted to the Secretary during December 1994)—

“(A) the recommendations of the Advisory Board as to whether the current Department of Defense organizational structure is adequate to oversee all investigative matters related to unlawful discrimination, sexual harassment, and other misconduct related to the gender of the victim; and

“(B) recommendations as to whether additional data collection and reporting procedures are needed to enhance the ability of the Department of Defense to respond to unlawful discrimination, sexual harassment, and other misconduct related to the gender of the victim.

“(2) The Secretary shall transmit to Congress the report of the Advisory Board not later than 15 days after receiving the report.

“(f) PERFORMANCE EVALUATION STANDARDS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that Department of Defense regulations governing consideration of equal opportunity matters in evaluations of the performance of members of the Armed Forces include provisions requiring as a factor in such evaluations consideration of a member's commitment to elimination of unlawful discrimination or of sexual harassment in the Armed Forces.”

§ 1561a. Civilian orders of protection: force and effect on military installations

(a) FORCE AND EFFECT.—A civilian order of protection shall have the same force and effect on a military installation as such order has within the jurisdiction of the court that issued such order.

(b) CIVILIAN ORDER OF PROTECTION DEFINED.—In this section, the term “civilian order of protection” has the meaning given the term “protection order” in section 2266(5) of title 18.

(c) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations to carry out this section. The regulations shall be designed to further good order and discipline by members of the armed forces and civilians present on military installations.

(Added Pub. L. 107-311, §2(a), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2455.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ON REGISTRATION AT MILITARY INSTALLATIONS OF CIVILIAN PROTECTIVE ORDERS APPLICABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ASSIGNED TO SUCH INSTALLATIONS AND CERTAIN OTHER INDIVIDUALS

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, §550A, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1380, provided that:

“(a) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REQUIRED.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019], the Secretary of Defense shall, in consultation with the Secretaries of the military departments, establish policies and procedures for the registration at military installations of any civilian protective orders described in subsection (b), including the duties and responsibilities of commanders of installations in the registration process.

“(b) CIVILIAN PROTECTIVE ORDERS.—A civilian protective order described in this subsection is any civilian protective order as follows:

“(1) A civilian protective order against a member of the Armed Forces assigned to the installation concerned.

“(2) A civilian protective order against a civilian employee employed at the installation concerned.

“(3) A civilian protective order against the civilian spouse or intimate partner of a member of the Armed Forces on active duty and assigned to the installation concerned, or of a civilian employee described in paragraph (2), which order provides for the protection of such member or employee.

“(c) PARTICULAR ELEMENTS.—The policies and procedures required by subsection (a) shall include the following:

“(1) A requirement for notice between and among the commander, military law enforcement elements, and military criminal investigative elements of an installation when a member of the Armed Forces assigned to such installation, a civilian employee employed at such installation, a civilian spouse or intimate partner of a member assigned to such installation, or a civilian spouse or intimate partner of a civilian employee employed at such installation becomes subject to a civilian protective order.

“(2) A statement of policy that failure to register a civilian protective order may not be a justification for the lack of enforcement of such order by military law enforcement and other applicable personnel who have knowledge of such order.

“(d) LETTER.—As soon as practicable after establishing the policies and procedures required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a letter that includes the following:

“(1) A detailed description of the policies and procedures.

“(2) A certification by the Secretary that the policies and procedures have been implemented on each military installation.”

§ 1561b. Confidential reporting of sexual harassment

(a) REPORTING PROCESS.—Notwithstanding section 1561 of this title, the Secretary of Defense shall prescribe in regulations a process by which a member of an armed force under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of a military department may confidentially allege a complaint of sexual harassment to an individual outside the immediate chain of command of the member.

(b) RECEIPT OF COMPLAINTS.—An individual designated and trained to receive complaints under the process under subsection (a) shall—

(1) maintain the confidentiality of the member alleging the complaint;

(2) explain to the member alleging the complaint the different avenues of redress available to resolve the complaint and the different consequences of each avenue on the manner in which the complaint will be investigated (if at all), including an explanation of the following:

(A) The manner in which to file a complaint concerning alleged sexual harassment with the official or office designated for receipt of such complaint through such avenue of redress.

(B) That confidentiality in connection with the complaint cannot be maintained when there is a clear and present risk to health or safety.

(C) If the alleged sexual harassment also involves an allegation of sexual assault, including sexual contact—

(i) the manner in which to file a confidential report with a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or a Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Victim Advocate; and

(ii) options available pursuant to such reporting, including a Restricted Report or Unrestricted Report, and participation in the Catch a Serial Offender Program.

(D) The services and assistance available to the member in connection with the complaint and the alleged sexual harassment.

(c) EDUCATION AND TRACKING.—The Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) educate members under the jurisdiction of the Secretaries of the military departments regarding the process established under this section; and

(2) track complaints alleged pursuant to the process.

(d) REPORTS.—Not later than April 30, 2023, and April 30 every two years thereafter, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report containing data on the complaints of sexual harassment alleged pursuant to the process under subsection (a) during the previous two calendar years. Any data on such complaints shall not contain any personally identifiable information.

(Added Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title V, § 532(a)(1), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3601.)

§ 1562. Database on domestic violence incidents

(a) DATABASE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a central database of information on the incidents of domestic violence involving members of the armed forces.

(b) REPORTING OF INFORMATION FOR THE DATABASE.—The Secretary shall require that the Secretaries of the military departments maintain and report annually to the administrator of the database established under subsection (a) any information received on the following matters:

(1) Each domestic violence incident reported to a commander, a law enforcement authority of the armed forces, or a family advocacy program of the Department of Defense.

(2) The number of those incidents that involve evidence determined sufficient for supporting disciplinary action and, for each such incident, a description of the substantiated allegation and the action taken by command authorities in the incident.

(3) The number of those incidents that involve evidence determined insufficient for supporting disciplinary action and for each such case, a description of the allegation.

(Added Pub. L. 106–65, div. A, title V, § 594(a), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 643.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

IMPROVEMENTS TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS

Pub. L. 111–383, div. A, title V, § 543, Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4218, as amended by Pub. L. 113–291, div. A, title V, § 544(b), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3374, provided that:

“(a) IMPLEMENTATION OF OUTSTANDING COMPTROLLER GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS.—Consistent with the recommendations contained in the report of the Comptroller General of the United States titled ‘Status of Implementation of GAO’s 2006 Recommendations on the Department of Defense’s Domestic Violence Program’ (GAO-10-577R), the Secretary of Defense shall complete, not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act [Jan. 7, 2011], implementation of actions to address the following recommendations:

“(1) ADEQUATE PERSONNEL.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a plan to ensure that adequate personnel are available to implement recommendations made by the Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence.

“(2) DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TRAINING DATA FOR CHAPLAINS.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop a plan to collect domestic violence training data for chaplains.

“(3) OVERSIGHT FRAMEWORK.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop an oversight framework for Department of Defense domestic violence programs, to include oversight of implementation of recommendations made by the Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence, including budgeting, communication initiatives, and policy compliance.

“(b) IMPLEMENTATION REPORT.—The Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] an implementation report within 90 days of the completion of actions outlined in subsection (a).”

COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW AND REPORT

Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title V, §575, Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1486, provided that:

“(a) REVIEW.—During the two-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 24, 2003], the Comptroller General shall review and assess the progress of the Department of Defense in implementing the recommendations of the Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence. In reviewing the status of the Department’s efforts, the Comptroller General should specifically focus on—

“(1) the efforts of the Department to ensure confidentiality for victims and accountability and education of commanding officers and chaplains; and

“(2) the resources that the Department of Defense has provided toward such implementation, including personnel, facilities, and other administrative support, in order to ensure that necessary resources are provided to the organization within the Office of the Secretary of Defense with direct responsibility for oversight of implementation by the military departments of recommendations of the Task Force in order for that organization to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

“(b) REPORT.—The Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives a report on the results of the review and assessment under subsection (a) not later than 30 months after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 24, 2003].”

DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, §591, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 639, as amended by Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title V, §575, Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1123, directed the Secretary of Defense to establish a Department of Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence; required the task force to submit to the Secretary of Defense a long-term, strategic plan to address matters relating to domestic violence within the military more effectively, to review the victims’ safety program under Pub. L. 106-65, §592, set out below, and other matters relating to acts of domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces, and to submit to the Secretary an annual report on its activities and activities of the military de-

partments; directed the Secretary to submit the report and the Secretary’s evaluation of the report to committees of Congress; and provided for the termination of the task force on Apr. 24, 2003.

INCENTIVE PROGRAM FOR IMPROVING RESPONSES TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INVOLVING MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND MILITARY FAMILY MEMBERS

Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, §592, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 642, provided that:

“(a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to provide a program for the establishment on military installations of collaborative projects involving appropriate elements of the Armed Forces and the civilian community to improve, strengthen, or coordinate prevention and response efforts to domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces, military family members, and others.

“(b) PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a program to provide funds and other incentives to commanders of military installations for the following purposes:

“(1) To improve coordination between military and civilian law enforcement authorities in policies, training, and responses to, and tracking of, cases involving military domestic violence.

“(2) To develop, implement, and coordinate with appropriate civilian authorities tracking systems (A) for protective orders issued to or on behalf of members of the Armed Forces by civilian courts, and (B) for orders issued by military commanders to members of the Armed Forces ordering them not to have contact with a dependent.

“(3) To strengthen the capacity of attorneys and other legal advocates to respond appropriately to victims of military domestic violence.

“(4) To assist in educating judges, prosecutors, and legal offices in improved handling of military domestic violence cases.

“(5) To develop and implement more effective policies, protocols, orders, and services specifically devoted to preventing, identifying, and responding to domestic violence.

“(6) To develop, enlarge, or strengthen victims’ services programs, including sexual assault and domestic violence programs, developing or improving delivery of victims’ services, and providing confidential access to specialized victims’ advocates.

“(7) To develop and implement primary prevention programs.

“(8) To improve the response of health care providers to incidents of domestic violence, including the development and implementation of screening protocols.

“(c) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority in providing funds and other incentives under the program to installations at which the local program will emphasize building or strengthening partnerships and collaboration among military organizations such as family advocacy program, military police or provost marshal organizations, judge advocate organizations, legal offices, health affairs offices, and other installation-level military commands between those organizations and appropriate civilian organizations, including civilian law enforcement, domestic violence advocacy organizations, and domestic violence shelters.

“(d) APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish guidelines for applications for an award of funds under the program to carry out the program at an installation.

“(e) AWARDS.—The Secretary shall determine the award of funds and incentives under this section. In making a determination of the installations to which funds or other incentives are to be provided under the program, the Secretary shall consult with an award review committee consisting of representatives from the Armed Forces, the Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, and organizations with a demonstrated expertise in the areas of domestic violence and victims’ safety.”

UNIFORM DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICIES FOR
RESPONSES TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title V, § 593, Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 643, provided that:

“(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe the following:

“(1) Standard guidelines to be used by the Secretaries of the military departments for negotiating agreements with civilian law enforcement authorities relating to acts of domestic violence involving members of the Armed Forces.

“(2) A requirement (A) that when a commanding officer issues to a member of the Armed Forces under that officer’s command an order that the member not have contact with a specified person that a written copy of that order be provided within 24 hours after the issuance of the order to the person with whom the member is ordered not to have contact, and (B) that there be a system of recording and tracking such orders.

“(3) Standard guidelines on the factors for commanders to consider when seeking to substantiate allegations of domestic violence by a person subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice and when determining appropriate action for such allegations that are so substantiated.

“(4) A standard training program for all commanding officers in the Armed Forces, including a standard curriculum, on the handling of domestic violence cases.

“(b) DEADLINE.—The Secretary of Defense shall carry out subsection (a) not later than six months after the date on which the Secretary receives the first report of the Defense Task Force on Domestic Violence under section 591(e) [set out as a note above].”

§ 1562a. Complaints of retaliation by victims of sexual assault or sexual harassment and related persons: tracking by Department of Defense

(a) DESIGNATION OF RESPONSIBLE COMPONENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall designate a component of the Office of the Secretary of Defense to be responsible for documenting and tracking all covered allegations of retaliation and shall ensure that the Secretaries concerned and the Inspector General of the Department of Defense provide to such component the information required to be documented and tracked as described in subsection (b).

(b) TRACKING OF ALLEGATIONS.—The head of the component designated by the Secretary under subsection (a) shall document and track each covered allegation of retaliation, including—

- (1) that such an allegation has been reported and by whom;
- (2) the date of the report;
- (3) the nature of the allegation and the name of the person or persons alleged to have engaged in such retaliation;
- (4) the Department of Defense component or other entity responsible for the investigation of or inquiry into the allegation;
- (5) the entry of findings;
- (6) referral of such findings to a decision-maker for review and action, as appropriate;
- (7) the outcome of final action; and
- (8) any other element of information pertaining to the allegation determined appropriate by the Secretary or the head of the component designated by the Secretary.

(c) COVERED ALLEGATION OF RETALIATION DEFINED.—In this section, the term “covered alle-

gation of retaliation” means an allegation of retaliation—

(1) made by—

(A) an alleged victim of sexual assault or sexual harassment;

(B) an individual charged with providing services or support to an alleged victim of sexual assault or sexual harassment;

(C) a witness or bystander to an alleged sexual assault or sexual harassment; or

(D) any other person associated with an alleged victim of a sexual assault or sexual harassment; and

(2) without regard to whether the allegation is reported to or investigated or inquired into by—

(A) the Department of Defense Inspector General or any other inspector general;

(B) a military criminal investigative organization;

(C) a commander or other person at the direction of the commander;

(D) another military or civilian law enforcement organization; or

(E) any other organization, officer, or employee of the Department of Defense.

(Added Pub. L. 117-81, div. A, title V, § 544(a), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1710.)

§ 1563. Consideration of proposals from Members of Congress for honorary promotions: procedures for review and promotion

(a) REVIEW BY SECRETARY CONCERNED.—Upon request of a Member of Congress, the Secretary concerned shall review a proposal for the honorary promotion (whether or not posthumous) of a former member or retired member of the armed forces that is not otherwise authorized by law. Based upon such review, the Secretary shall make a determination as to the merits of approving the promotion.

(b) NOTICE OF RESULTS OF REVIEW.—Upon making a determination under subsection (a) as to the merits of approving the honorary promotion, the Secretary concerned shall submit to the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and to the requesting Member of Congress a detailed discussion of the rationale supporting the determination.

(c) AUTHORITY TO MAKE.—(1) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Defense may make an honorary promotion (whether or not posthumous) of a former member or retired member of the armed forces to any grade not exceeding the grade of major general or rear admiral (upper half) following the submittal of the determination of the Secretary concerned under subsection (b) in connection with the proposal for the promotion if the determination is to approve the making of the promotion.

(2) The Secretary of Defense may not make an honorary promotion under this subsection until 60 days after the date on which the Secretary concerned submits the determination in connection with the proposal for the promotion under subsection (b), and the detailed rationale supporting the determination as described in that subsection, to the Committees on Armed Serv-

ices of the Senate and the House of Representatives and the requesting Member in accordance with that subsection.

(3) The authority to make an honorary promotion under this subsection shall apply notwithstanding that the promotion is not otherwise authorized by law.

(4) Any promotion pursuant to this subsection is honorary, and shall not affect the pay, retired pay, or other benefits from the United States to which the former member or retired member concerned is or would have been entitled based upon the military service of such former member or retired member, nor affect any benefits to which any other person may become entitled based on the military service of such former member or retired member.

(d) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “Member of Congress” means—

(1) a Senator; or

(2) a Representative in, or a Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, Congress.

(Added Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title V, §542(a)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-114; amended Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title X, §1031(a)(11), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1597; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §523(b), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3598; Pub. L. 118-31, div. A, title XVII, §1741(a)(6), Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 680.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2023—Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 118-31 substituted “general or” for “general,” and struck out “, or an equivalent grade in the Space Force” after “rear admiral (upper half)”.

2021—Pub. L. 116-283, §523(b)(3), substituted “Consideration of proposals from Members of Congress for honorary promotions: procedures for review and promotion” for “Consideration of proposals for posthumous and honorary promotions and appointments: procedures for review” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-283, §523(b)(1)(A), substituted, in first sentence, “the honorary promotion (whether or not posthumous) of a former member or retired member of the armed forces” for “the posthumous or honorary promotion or appointment of a member or former member of the armed forces, or any other person considered qualified,” and, in second sentence, “the promotion” for “the posthumous or honorary promotion or appointment”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 116-283, §523(b)(1)(B), substituted “the honorary promotion” for “the posthumous or honorary promotion or appointment”.

Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 116-283, §523(b)(2), added subsec. (c) and redesignated former subsec. (c) as (d).

2003—Pub. L. 108-136, §1031(a)(11)(B), struck out “and recommendation” after “review” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-136, §1031(a)(11)(A)(i), struck out “and the other determinations necessary to comply with subsection (b)” before period at end.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 108-136, §1031(a)(11)(A)(ii), substituted “a detailed discussion of the rationale supporting the determination.” for “notice in writing of one of the following:

“(1) The posthumous or honorary promotion or appointment does not warrant approval on the merits.

“(2) The posthumous or honorary promotion or appointment warrants approval and authorization by law for the promotion or appointment is recommended.

“(3) The posthumous or honorary promotion or appointment warrants approval on the merits and has been recommended to the President as an exception to policy.

“(4) The posthumous or honorary promotion or appointment warrants approval on the merits and authorization by law for the promotion or appointment is required but is not recommended.

A notice under paragraph (1) or (4) shall be accompanied by a statement of the reasons for the decision of the Secretary.”

§ 1563a. Honorary promotions on the initiative of the Department of Defense

(a) IN GENERAL.—(1) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary may make an honorary promotion (whether or not posthumous) of a former member or retired member of the armed forces to any grade not exceeding the grade of major general or rear admiral (upper half) if the Secretary determines that the promotion is merited.

(2) The authority to make an honorary promotion under this subsection shall apply notwithstanding that the promotion is not otherwise authorized by law.

(b) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary may not make an honorary promotion pursuant to subsection (a) until 60 days after the date on which the Secretary submits to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a notice of the determination to make the promotion, including a detailed discussion of the rationale supporting the determination.

(c) NOTICE OF PROMOTION.—Upon making an honorary promotion pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary shall expeditiously notify the former member or retired member concerned, or the next of kin of such former member or retired member if such former member or retired member is deceased, of the promotion.

(d) NATURE OF PROMOTION.—Any promotion pursuant to this section is honorary, and shall not affect the pay, retired pay, or other benefits from the United States to which the former member or retired member concerned is entitled or would have been entitled based on the military service of such former member or retired member, nor affect any benefits to which any other person is or may become entitled based on the military service of such former member or retired member.

(Added Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §523(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3597; amended Pub. L. 118-31, div. A, title XVII, §1741(a)(6), Dec. 22, 2023, 137 Stat. 680.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2023—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 118-31 substituted “general or” for “general,” and struck out “, or an equivalent grade in the Space Force” after “rear admiral (upper half)”.

§ 1564. Security clearance investigations

(a) EXPEDITED PROCESS.—The Secretary of Defense may prescribe a process for expediting the completion of the background investigations necessary for granting security clearances for—

(1) Department of Defense personnel and Department of Defense contractor personnel who are engaged in sensitive duties that are critical to the national security; and

(2) any individual who—

(A) submits an application for a position as an employee of the Department of Defense for which—

- (i) the individual is qualified; and
- (ii) a security clearance is required; and

(B) is—

(i) a member of the armed forces who was retired or separated, or is expected to be retired or separated, for physical disability pursuant to chapter 61 of this title;

(ii) the spouse of a member of the armed forces who retires or is separated, after January 7, 2011, for a physical disability as a result of a wound, injuries or illness incurred or aggravated in the line of duty (as determined by the Secretary concerned); or

(iii) the spouse of a member of the armed forces who dies, after January 7, 2011, as a result of a wound, injury, or illness incurred or aggravated in the line of duty (as determined by the Secretary concerned).

(b) **REQUIRED FEATURES.**—The process developed under subsection (a) shall provide for the following:

(1) Quantification of the requirements for background investigations necessary for grants of security clearances for Department of Defense personnel and Department of Defense contractor personnel.

(2) Categorization of personnel on the basis of the degree of sensitivity of their duties and the extent to which those duties are critical to the national security.

(3) Prioritization of the processing of background investigations on the basis of the categories of personnel determined under paragraph (2).

(c) **REINVESTIGATION OR READJUDICATION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.**—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall conduct an investigation or adjudication under subsection (a) of any individual described in paragraph (2) upon—

(A) conviction of that individual by a court of competent jurisdiction for—

- (i) sexual assault;
- (ii) sexual harassment;
- (iii) fraud against the United States; or
- (iv) any other violation that the Secretary determines renders that individual susceptible to blackmail or raises serious concern regarding the ability of that individual to hold a security clearance; or

(B) determination by a commanding officer that that individual has committed an offense described in subparagraph (A).

(2) An individual described in this paragraph is an individual who has a security clearance and is—

- (A) a flag officer;
- (B) a general officer; or
- (C) an employee of the Department of Defense in the Senior Executive Service.

(3) The Secretary shall ensure that relevant information on the conviction or determination described in paragraph (1) of an individual described in paragraph (2) during the preceding

year, regardless of whether the individual has retired or resigned or has been discharged, released, or otherwise separated from the armed forces, is reported into Federal law enforcement records and security clearance databases, and that such information is transmitted, as appropriate, to other Federal agencies.

(4) In this subsection:

(A) The term “sexual assault” includes rape, sexual assault, forcible sodomy, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, and attempts to commit such offenses, as those terms are defined in chapter 47 of this title (the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(B) The term “sexual harassment” has the meaning given that term in section 1561 of this title.

(C) The term “fraud against the United States” means a violation of section 932 of this title (article 132 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice).

(d) **ANNUAL REVIEW.**—The Secretary shall conduct an annual review of the process prescribed under subsection (a) and shall revise that process as determined necessary in relation to ongoing Department of Defense missions.

(e) **CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.**—The Secretary shall consult with the Secretaries of the military departments and the heads of Defense Agencies in carrying out this section.

(f) **SENSITIVE DUTIES.**—For the purposes of this section, it is not necessary for the performance of duties to involve classified activities or classified matters in order for the duties to be considered sensitive and critical to the national security.

(g) **USE OF APPROPRIATED FUNDS.**—The Secretary of Defense may use funds authorized to be appropriated to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance to conduct background investigations under this section for individuals described in subsection (a)(2).

(Added Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [[div. A], title X, § 1072(a)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-276; amended Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title III, § 351(a), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4192; Pub. L. 112-239, div. A, title X, § 1076(e)(1), Jan. 2, 2013, 126 Stat. 1951; Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title V, § 542, Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1762; Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title X, § 1081(a)(29), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3872.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 116-283 substituted “is an individual” for “in an individual” in introductory provisions.

2018—Subsecs. (c) to (g). Pub. L. 115-232 added subsec. (c) and redesignated former subsecs. (c) to (f) as (d) to (g), respectively.

2013—Subsec. (a)(2)(B)(ii), (iii). Pub. L. 112-239 substituted “January 7, 2011” for “the date of the enactment of the Ike Skelton National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2011”.

2011—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 111-383, § 351(a)(1), added subsec. (a) and struck out former subsec. (a). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe a process for expediting the completion of the background investigations necessary for granting security clearances for Department of Defense personnel and Department of Defense contractor personnel who are engaged in sensitive duties that are critical to the national security.”

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 111-383, § 351(a)(2), added subsec. (f).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2011 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title III, § 351(b), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4193, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to a background investigation conducted after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 7, 2011].”

SECURITY CLEARANCE BRIDGE PILOT PROGRAM

Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title VIII, § 882, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2744, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, shall conduct a pilot program to allow the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency to sponsor the personal security clearances of the employees of innovative technology companies that are performing a contract of the Department of Defense while the Government completes the adjudication of the facility clearance application of such a [sic] innovative technology company.

“(b) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) PERSONAL SECURITY CLEARANCE AUTHORITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Under the pilot program, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency may nominate and sponsor the personal security clearances of the employees of an innovative technology company.

“(B) LIMITATION.—Under the pilot program, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency may sponsor the personal security clearances of employees of not more than 75 innovative technology companies.

“(2) ADJUDICATION OF THE FACILITY CLEARANCE APPLICATION.—Any adjudication of a facility clearance application of an innovative technology company described in subsection (a) shall include an assessment and mitigation of foreign ownership, control, or influence of the innovative technology company, as applicable.

“(c) CLEARANCE TRANSFER.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after an innovative technology company is granted facility clearance, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency shall transfer any personal clearances of employees of the innovative technology company held by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency under the pilot program back to the innovative technology company.

“(2) DENIAL OF FACILITY CLEARANCE.—Not later than 10 days after an innovative technology company is denied facility clearance, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency shall release any personal clearances of employees of the innovative technology company held by the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency under the pilot program.

“(d) PARTICIPANT SELECTION.—The Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering, in consultation with the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment and the service acquisition executive of the military department concerned (as such terms are defined, respectively, in section 101 of title 10, United States Code), shall select innovative technology companies to participate in the pilot program.

“(e) SUNSET.—The pilot program shall terminate on December 31, 2028.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) FACILITY CLEARANCE.—The term ‘facility clearance’ has the meaning given the term ‘Facility Clearance’ in section 95.5 of title 10, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

“(2) FOREIGN OWNERSHIP, CONTROL, OR INFLUENCE.—The term ‘foreign ownership, control, or influence’ has the meaning given in section 847 of the National

Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (Public Law 116-92; 133 Stat. 1505; 10 U.S.C. 4819 note).

“(3) INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY COMPANY.—The term ‘innovative technology company’ means a nontraditional defense contractor (as defined in section 3014 of title 10, United States Code) that—

“(A) provides goods or services related to—

“(i) one or more of the 14 critical technology areas described in the memorandum by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering issued on February 1, 2022, entitled ‘USD(R&E) Technology Vision for an Era of Competition’; or

“(ii) information technology, software, or hardware that is unavailable from any other entity that possesses a facility clearance; and

“(B) is selected by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering under subsection (d) to participate in the pilot program.

“(4) PERSONAL SECURITY CLEARANCE.—The term ‘personal security clearance’ means the security clearance of an individual who has received approval from the Department of Defense to access classified information.

“(5) PILOT PROGRAM.—The term ‘pilot program’ means the pilot program established under subsection (a).”

SECURITY CLEARANCES FOR RECENTLY SEPARATED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title X, § 1045, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2772, provided that:

“(a) IMPROVEMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No later than September 30, 2023, the Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Director of National Intelligence when acting as the Security Executive Agent, shall establish a process to—

“(A) determine, on the date on which a covered individual separates from the Armed Forces or the Department of Defense (as the case may be), whether the covered individual held an eligibility to access classified information or to occupy a sensitive position immediately prior to such separation and requires an eligibility of an equal or lower level for employment as a covered contractor, except as provided in subsection (b);

“(B) ensure that the re-establishment of trust of a covered individual’s eligibility to occupy a sensitive position takes place expeditiously, in accordance with applicable laws, Executive Orders, or Security Executive Agent policy; and

“(C) ensure that any additional security processing required to re-establish trust to reinstate a covered individual’s eligibility to access classified information or occupy a sensitive position takes place expeditiously.

“(2) COAST GUARD.—In the case of a member of the Armed Forces who is a member of the Coast Guard, the Secretary of Defense shall carry out paragraph (1) in consultation with the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating.

“(b) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply with respect to a covered individual—

“(A) whose previously held security clearance is, or was as of the date of separation of the covered individual, under review as a result of one or more potentially disqualifying factors or conditions that have not been fully investigated or mitigated; or

“(B) in the case of a member of the Armed Forces, who separated from the Armed Forces under other than honorable conditions.

“(2) CLARIFICATION OF REVIEW EXCEPTION.—The exception specified in paragraph (1)(A) shall not apply with respect to a routine periodic reinvestigation or a continuous vetting investigation in which no potentially disqualifying factors or conditions have been found.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘covered contractor’ means an individual who is employed by an entity that carries out work under a contract with the Department of Defense or an element of the intelligence community.

“(2) The term ‘covered individual’ means a former member of the Armed Forces or a former civilian employee of the Department of Defense.

“(3) The term ‘intelligence community’ has the meaning given that term in section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).”

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY ON UNCLASSIFIED WORKSPACES AND JOB FUNCTIONS OF PERSONNEL WITH PENDING SECURITY CLEARANCES

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XI, §1101, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3884, provided that:

“(a) POLICY REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop and implement a policy under which a covered individual may occupy a position within the Department of Defense that requires a security clearance to perform appropriate unclassified work, or work commensurate with a security clearance already held by the individual (which may include an interim security clearance), while such individual awaits a final determination with respect to the security clearance required for such position.

“(b) UNCLASSIFIED WORK SPACES.—As part of the policy under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall—

“(1) ensure, to the extent practicable, that all facilities of the Department of Defense at which covered individuals perform job functions have unclassified workspaces; and

“(2) issue guidelines under which appropriately screened individuals, who are not covered individuals, may use the unclassified workspaces on a space-available basis.

“(c) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act [Jan. 1, 2021], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report setting forth the policy required by subsection (a). The report shall include the following:

“(1) Identification of any challenges or impediments to allowing covered individuals fill positions on a probationary basis as described in subsection (a).

“(2) A plan for implementing the policy.

“(3) A description of how existing facilities may be modified to accommodate unclassified workspaces.

“(4) Identification of impediments to making unclassified workspace available.

“(d) COVERED INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘covered individual’ includes a member of the Armed Forces, a civilian employee of the Department of Defense, or an applicant for a civilian position within the Department of Defense, who has applied for, but who has not yet received, a security clearance that is required for the individual to perform one or more job functions.”

DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY ACTIVITIES ON FACILITATING ACCESS TO LOCAL CRIMINAL RECORDS HISTORICAL DATA

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title XVI, §1625, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1736, provided that:

“(a) ACTIVITY AUTHORIZED.—Subject to subsection (c), the Director of the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency may carry out a set of activities to reduce the time and cost of accessing State, local, and tribal law enforcement records for the background investigations required for current and prospective Federal Government employees and contractors.

“(b) ACTIVITIES CHARACTERIZED.—The activities carried out under subsection (a) shall include only that training, education, and direct assistance to State, local, and tribal communities needed for the purpose of streamlining access to historical criminal record data.

“(c) LIMITATIONS.—

“(1) COMMENCEMENT OF ACTIVITIES.—The Director may not commence carrying out any activities under

subsection (a) until the date that is 90 days after the date on which the Director submits the report required by subsection (d)(1).

“(2) LEGAL AND REPORTING OBLIGATIONS.—The Director shall ensure that no activity carried out under subsection (a) obligates a State, local, or tribal entity to any additional legal or reporting obligation to the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

“(3) SCOPE.—No activity may be carried out under subsection (a) that applies to any matter outside the limited purpose of conducting background investigations for current and prospective Federal Government employees and contractors.

“(4) CONSISTENCY WITH ACCESS PROVIDED.—The Director shall ensure that the activities carried out under subsection (a) are carried out in a manner that is consistent with the access provided by Federal law enforcement entities to the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

“(d) REPORTS.—

“(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019], the Director shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives], the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives a report that details a concept of operation for the set of activities authorized by subsection (a).

“(2) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date on which the Director submits a report pursuant to paragraph (1) and not less frequently than once each year thereafter, the Director shall submit to the congressional defense committees, the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives a detailed report on the activities carried out by the Director under subsection (a).”

REPORTS ON CONSOLIDATED ADJUDICATION FACILITY OF THE DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title XVI, §1627, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1740, provided that:

“(a) REPORTS.—On a semiannual basis during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 20, 2019] and ending on the date specified in subsection (b), and annually thereafter, the Director of the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] a report on the processes in place for adjudicating security clearances and the progress made to address the backlog of security clearance applications, including—

“(1) metrics used by the Director to evaluate the inventory and timeliness of adjudicating security clearance cases; and

“(2) details on the resources used by the Director in carrying out the security clearance mission of the Consolidated Adjudication Facility.

“(b) DETERMINATION AND BRIEFING.—Upon the date on which the Director of the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency determines both that the backlog of security clearance adjudications has been substantially eliminated and that the timeline to conduct background investigations reflects the type of investigation being conducted and the level of clearance required, the Director shall—

“(1) notify the congressional defense committees of such determination; and

“(2) provide to such committees a briefing on the progress made by the Director with respect to security clearance adjudications.”

TERMINATION OF REQUIREMENT FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE FACILITY ACCESS CLEARANCES FOR JOINT VENTURES COMPOSED OF PREVIOUSLY-CLEARED ENTITIES

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title XVI, §1629, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1741, provided that: “A clearance for access to a Department of Defense installation or facility may not be required for a joint venture if that joint venture is composed entirely of entities that are currently cleared for access to such installation or facility.”

BACKGROUND AND SECURITY INVESTIGATIONS FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL BY DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY

Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title IX, §925, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1526, as amended by Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title IX, §937, Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1940, provided that:

“(a) **TRANSITION TO DISCHARGE BY DEFENSE SECURITY SERVICE** [now DEFENSE COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY].—

“(1) **SECRETARIAL AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of Defense has the authority to conduct security, suitability, and credentialing background investigations for Department of Defense personnel. In carrying out such authority, the Secretary may use such authority, or may delegate such authority to another entity.

“(2) **PHASED TRANSITION.**—As part of providing for the conduct of background investigations initiated by the Department of Defense through the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] by not later than the deadline specified in subsection (b), the Secretary shall, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, provide for a phased transition from the conduct of such investigations by the National Background Investigations Bureau of the Office of Personnel Management to the conduct of such investigations by the Defense Security Service by that deadline.

“(3) **TRANSITION ELEMENTS.**—The phased transition required by paragraph (2) shall—

“(A) provide for the transition of the conduct of investigations to the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] using a risk management approach; and

“(B) be consistent with the transition from legacy information technology operated by the Office of Personnel Management to the new information technology, including the National Background Investigations System, as described in subsection (f).

“(b) **COMMENCEMENT OF IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR ONGOING DISCHARGE OF INVESTIGATIONS THROUGH DSS.**—Not later than October 1, 2020, the Secretary of Defense shall commence carrying out the implementation plan developed pursuant to section 951(a)(1) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 130 Stat. 2371; 10 U.S.C. 1564 note).

“(c) **TRANSFER OF CERTAIN FUNCTIONS WITHIN DoD TO DSS.**—

“(1) **TRANSFER REQUIRED.**—For purposes of meeting the requirements in subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary of Defense shall transfer to the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] the functions, personnel, and associated resources of the following organizations:

“(A) The Consolidated Adjudications Facility.

“(B) Other organizations identified by the Secretary for purposes of this paragraph.

“(2) **SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS.**—In addition to the organizations identified pursuant to paragraph (1), the following organizations shall prioritize resources to directly support the execution of requirements in subsections (a) and (b):

“(A) The Office of Cost Analysis and Program Evaluation.

“(B) The Defense Digital Service.

“(C) Other organizations designated by the Secretary for purposes of this paragraph.

“(3) **TIMING AND MANNER OF TRANSFER.**—The Secretary—

“(A) may carry out the transfer required by paragraph (1) at any time before the date specified in subsection (b) that the Secretary considers appropriate for purposes of this section; and

“(B) shall carry out the transfer in a manner designed to minimize disruptions to the conduct of background investigations for personnel of the Department of Defense.

“(d) **TRANSFER OF CERTAIN FUNCTIONS IN OPM TO DSS** [now DCSA].—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of meeting the requirements in subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary of Defense shall provide for the transfer of the functions described in paragraph (2), and any associated personnel and resources, to the Department of Defense.

“(2) **FUNCTIONS.**—The functions to be transferred pursuant to paragraph (1) are the following:

“(A) Any personnel security investigations functions transferred by the Secretary to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management pursuant to section 906 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004 (Public Law 108-136; 5 U.S.C. 1101 note).

“(B) Any other functions of the Office of Personnel Management in connection with background investigations initiated by the Department of Defense that the Secretary and the Director jointly consider appropriate.

“(3) **ASSESSMENT.**—In carrying out the transfer of functions pursuant to paragraph (1), the Secretary shall conduct a comprehensive assessment of workforce requirements for both the Department of Defense and the National Background Investigations Bureau synchronized to the transition plan, including a forecast of workforce needs across the current future-years defense plan for the Department. Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 12, 2017], the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report containing the results of the assessment.

“(4) **CONSULTATION.**—The Secretary shall carry out paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

“(5) **LOCATION WITHIN DoD.**—Any functions transferred to the Department of Defense pursuant to this subsection shall be located within the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency].

“(e) **CONDUCT OF CERTAIN ACTIONS.**—For purposes of the conduct of background investigations following the commencement of carrying out the implementation plan referred to in subsection (b), the Secretary of Defense shall provide for the following:

“(1) A single capability for the centralized funding, submissions, and processing of all background investigations, from within the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency].

“(2) The discharge by the Consolidated Adjudications Facility, from within the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] pursuant to transfer under subsection (c), of adjudications in connection with the following:

“(A) Background investigations.

“(B) Continuous evaluation and vetting checks.

“(f) **ENHANCEMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAPABILITIES OF NBIS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Defense shall conduct a review of the information technology capabilities of the National Background Investigations System in order to determine whether enhancements to such capabilities are required for the following:

“(A) Support for background investigations pursuant to this section and section 951 of the National

Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 130 Stat. 2371; 10 U.S.C. 1564 note).

“(B) Support of the National Background Investigations Bureau.

“(C) Execution of the conduct of background investigations initiated by the Department of Defense pursuant to this section, including submissions and adjudications.

“(2) COMMON COMPONENT.—In providing for the transition and operation of the National Background Investigations System as described in paragraph (1)(C), the Secretary shall develop a common component of the System usable for background investigations by both the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] and the National Background Investigations Bureau.

“(3) ENHANCEMENTS.—If the review pursuant to paragraph (1) determines that enhancements described in that paragraph are required, the Secretary shall carry out such enhancements.

“(4) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall carry out this subsection in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

“(g) USE OF CERTAIN PRIVATE INDUSTRY DATA.—In carrying out background and security investigations pursuant to this section and section 951 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114-328; 130 Stat. 2371; 10 U.S.C. 1564 note), the Secretary of Defense may use background materials collected on individuals by the private sector, in accordance with national policies and standards, that are applicable to such investigations, including materials as follows:

“(1) Financial information, including credit scores and credit status.

“(2) Criminal records.

“(3) Drug screening.

“(4) Verifications of information on resumes and employment applications, such as previous employers, educational achievement, and educational institutions attended.

“(5) Other publicly available electronic information.

“(h) SECURITY CLEARANCES FOR CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall review the requirements of the Department of Defense relating to position sensitivity designations for contractor personnel in order to determine whether such requirements may be reassessed or modified to reduce the number and range of contractor personnel who are issued security clearances in connection with work under contracts with the Department.

“(2) GUIDANCE.—The Secretary shall issue guidance to program managers, contracting officers, and security personnel of the Department specifying requirements for the review of contractor position sensitivity designations and the number of contractor personnel of the Department who are issued security clearances for the purposes of determining whether the number of such personnel who are issued security clearances should and can be reduced.

“(i) PERSONNEL TO SUPPORT THE TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall authorize the Director of the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] to promptly increase the number of personnel of the Defense Security Service for the purpose of beginning the establishment and expansion of investigative capacity to support the phased transfer of investigative functions from the Office of Personnel Management to the Department of Defense under this section. The Director of Cost Analysis and Program Assessment shall advise the Secretary on the size of the initial investigative workforce and the rate of growth of that workforce.

“(j) REPORT ON FUTURE PERIODIC REINVESTIGATIONS, INSIDER THREAT, AND CONTINUOUS VETTING.—

“(1) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 12, 2017],

the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the following:

“(A) An assessment of the feasibility and advisability of periodic reinvestigations of backgrounds of Government and contractor personnel with security clearances, including lessons from all of the continuous evaluation pilots being conducted throughout the Government, and identification of new or additional data sources and data analytic tools needed for improving current continuous evaluation or vetting capabilities.

“(B) A plan to provide the Government with an enhanced risk management model that reduces the gaps in coverage perpetuated by the current time-based periodic reinvestigations model, particularly in light of the increasing use of continuous background evaluations of personnel referred to in subparagraph (A).

“(C) A plan for expanding continuous background vetting capabilities, such as the Installation Matching Engine for Security and Analysis, to the broader population, including those at the lowest tiers and levels of access, which plan shall include details to ensure that all individuals credentialed for physical access to Department of Defense facilities and installations are vetted to the same level of fitness determinations and subject to appropriate continuous vetting.

“(D) A plan to fully integrate and incorporate insider threat data, tools, and capabilities into the new end-to-end vetting processes and supporting information technology established by the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] to ensure a holistic and transformational approach to detecting, deterring, and mitigating threats posed by trusted insiders.

“(2) CONSULTATION.—The Secretary shall prepare the report under paragraph (1) in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management.

“(k) QUARTERLY AND ANNUAL BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS.—

“(1) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT OF TIMELINESS.—Not later than December 31, 2018, and each December 31 thereafter through the date specified in paragraph (4), the Security Executive Agent, in coordination with the Chair and other Principals of the Security, Suitability, and Credentialing Performance Accountability Council, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the timeliness of personnel security clearance initiations, investigations, and adjudications, by clearance level, for both initial investigations and periodic reinvestigations during the prior fiscal year for Government and contractor employees, including the following:

“(A) The average periods of time taken by each authorized investigative agency and authorized adjudicative agency to initiate cases, conduct investigations, and adjudicate cases as compared with established timeliness objectives, from the date a completed security clearance application is received to the date of adjudication and notification to the subject and the subject's employer.

“(B) The number of initial investigations and periodic reinvestigations initiated and adjudicated by each authorized adjudicative agency.

“(C) The number of initial investigations and periodic reinvestigations carried over from prior fiscal years by each authorized investigative and adjudicative agency.

“(D) The number of initial investigations and periodic reinvestigations that resulted in a denial or revocation of a security clearance by each authorized adjudicative agency.

“(E) The costs to the executive branch related to personnel security clearance initiations, investigations, adjudications, revocations, and continuous evaluation.

“(F) A discussion of any impediments to the timely processing of personnel security clearances.

“(G) The number of clearance holders enrolled in continuous evaluation and the numbers and types of adverse actions taken as a result by each authorized adjudicative agency.

“(H) The number of personnel security clearance cases, both initial investigations and periodic re-investigations, awaiting or under investigation by the National Background Investigations Bureau.

“(I) Other information as appropriate, including any recommendations to improve the timeliness and efficiency of personnel security clearance initiations, investigations, and adjudications.

“(2) QUARTERLY BRIEFINGS.—Not later than the end of each calendar-year quarter beginning after January 1, 2018, through the date specified in paragraph (4), the Secretary of Defense shall provide the appropriate congressional committees a briefing on the progress of the Secretary in carrying out the requirements of this section during that calendar-year quarter. Until the backlog of security clearance applications at the National Background Investigations Bureau is eliminated, each quarterly briefing shall also include the current status of the backlog and the resulting mission and resource impact to the Department of Defense and the defense industrial base. Until the phased transition described in subsection (a) is complete, each quarterly briefing shall also include identification of any resources planned for movement from the National Background Investigations Bureau to the Department of Defense during the next calendar-year quarter.

“(3) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than December 31, 2018, and each December 31 thereafter through the date specified in paragraph (4), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report on the following for the calendar year in which the report is to be submitted:

“(A) The status of the Secretary in meeting the requirements in subsections (a), (b), and (c).

“(B) The status of any transfers to be carried out pursuant to subsection (d).

“(C) An assessment of the personnel security capabilities of the Department of Defense.

“(D) The average periods of time taken by each authorized investigative agency and authorized adjudicative agency to initiate cases, conduct investigations, and adjudicate cases as compared with established timeliness objectives, from the date a completed security clearance application is received to the date of adjudication and notification to the subject and the subject’s employer.

“(E) The number of initial investigations and periodic reinvestigations initiated and adjudicated by each authorized adjudicative agency.

“(F) The number of initial investigations and periodic reinvestigations carried over from prior fiscal years by each authorized investigative and adjudicative agency.

“(G) The number of initial investigations and periodic reinvestigations that resulted in a denial or revocation of a security clearance by each authorized adjudicative agency.

“(H) The number of denials or revocations of a security clearance by each authorized adjudicative agency that occurred separately from a periodic re-investigation.

“(I) The costs to the Department of Defense related to personnel security clearance initiations, investigations, adjudications, revocations, and continuous evaluation.

“(J) A discussion of any impediments to the timely processing of personnel security clearances.

“(K) The number of clearance holders enrolled in continuous evaluation and the numbers and types of adverse actions taken as a result.

“(L) The number of personnel security clearance cases, both initial investigations and periodic re-investigations, awaiting or under investigation by the National Background Investigations Bureau.

“(M) Other information that the Secretary considers appropriate, including any recommendations

to improve the timeliness and efficiency of personnel security clearance initiations, investigations, and adjudications.

“(4) TERMINATION.—No briefing or report is required under this subsection after December 31, 2021.

“(I) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(1) the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

“(2) the Committees on Armed Services, Appropriations, Oversight and Government Reform [now Committee on Oversight and Accountability], and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.”

ENHANCED SECURITY PROGRAMS FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PERSONNEL AND INNOVATION INITIATIVES

Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title IX, §951, Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2371, provided that:

“(a) ENHANCEMENT OF SECURITY PROGRAMS GENERALLY.—

“(1) PERSONNEL BACKGROUND AND SECURITY PLAN REQUIRED.—The Secretary of Defense shall develop an implementation plan for the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] to conduct, after October 1, 2017, background investigations for personnel of the Department of Defense whose investigations are adjudicated by the Consolidated Adjudication Facility of the Department. The Secretary shall submit the implementation plan to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives] by not later than August 1, 2017.

“(2) PLAN FOR POTENTIAL TRANSFER OF INVESTIGATIVE PERSONNEL TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—Not later than October 1, 2017, the Secretary and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall develop a plan to transfer Government investigative personnel and contracted resources to the Department in proportion to the background and security investigative workload that would be assumed by the Department if the plan required by paragraph (1) were implemented.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than August 1, 2017, the Secretary shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the number of full-time equivalent employees of the management headquarters of the Department that would be required by the Defense Security Service [now Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency] to carry out the plan developed under paragraph (1).

“(4) COLLECTION, STORAGE, AND RETENTION OF INFORMATION BY INSIDER THREAT PROGRAMS.—In order to enable detection and mitigation of potential insider threats, the Secretary shall ensure that insider threat programs of the Department collect, store, and retain information from the following:

“(A) Personnel security.

“(B) Physical security.

“(C) Information security.

“(D) Law enforcement.

“(E) Counterintelligence.

“(F) User activity monitoring.

“(G) Information assurance.

“(H) Such other data sources as the Secretary considers necessary and appropriate.

“(b) ELEMENTS OF SYSTEM.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In developing a system for the performance of background investigations for personnel in carrying out subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

“(A) conduct a review of security clearance business processes and, to the extent practicable, modify such processes to maximize compatibility with the security clearance information technology architecture to minimize the need for customization of the system;

“(B) conduct business process mapping of the business processes described in subparagraph (A);

“(C) use spiral development and incremental acquisition practices to rapidly deploy the system, including through the use of prototyping and open architecture principles;

“(D) establish a process to identify and limit interfaces with legacy systems and to limit customization of any commercial information technology tools used;

“(E) establish automated processes for measuring the performance goals of the system;

“(F) incorporate capabilities for the continuous monitoring of network security and the mitigation of insider threats to the system;

“(G) institute a program to collect and maintain data and metrics on the background investigation process; and

“(H) establish a council (to be known as the ‘Department of Defense Background Investigations Rate Council’) to advise and advocate for rate efficiencies for background clearance investigation rates, and to negotiate rates for background investigation services provided to outsiders [sic] entities and agencies when requested.

“(2) COMPLETION DATE.—The Secretary shall complete the development and implementation of the system described in paragraph (1) by not later than September 30, 2019.

“(c) ESTABLISHMENT OF ENHANCED SECURITY PROGRAM TO SUPPORT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INNOVATION INITIATIVE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2016], the Secretary shall establish a personnel security program, and take such other actions as the Secretary considers appropriate, to support the Innovation Initiative of the Department to better leverage commercial technology.

“(2) POLICIES AND PROCEDURES.—In establishing the program required by paragraph (1), the Secretary shall develop policies and procedures to rapidly and inexpensively investigate and adjudicate security clearances for personnel from commercial companies with innovative technologies and solutions to enable such companies to receive relevant threat reporting and to propose solutions for a broader set of Department requirements.

“(3) ACCESS TO CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall ensure that access to classified information under the program required by paragraph (1) is not contingent on a company already being under contract with the Department.

“(4) AWARD OF SECURITY CLEARANCES.—The Secretary may award secret clearances under the program required by paragraph (1) for limited purposes and periods relating to the acquisition or modification of capabilities and services.

“(d) UPDATED GUIDANCE AND REVIEW OF POLICIES.—

“(1) REVIEW OF APPLICABLE LAWS.—The Secretary shall review laws, regulations, and executive orders relating to the maintenance of personnel security clearance information by the Federal Government, including the investigation timeline metrics established in the Intelligence Reform and Prevention of Terrorism Act of 2004 (Public Law 108–458 [see Tables for classification]). The review should also identify recommendations to eliminate duplicative or outdated authorities in current executive orders, regulations and guidance. Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2016], the Secretary shall provide to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives a briefing that includes—

“(A) the results of the review; and

“(B) recommendations, if any, for consolidating and clarifying laws, regulations, and executive orders relating to the maintenance of personnel security clearance information by the Federal Government.

“(2) RECIPROCITY DIRECTIVE.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall coordinate with the Security Executive Agent, in consultation with the Suitability Executive Agent, to issue an updated reciprocity directive that accounts for security policy changes associated with new position designation regulations under section 1400 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations, new continuous evaluation policies, and new Federal investigative standards.

“(3) IMPLEMENTATION DIRECTIVES.—The Secretary, working with the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability Executive Agent, shall jointly develop and issue directives on—

“(A) completing the implementation of the National Security Sensitive Position designations required by section 1400 of title 5, Code of Federal Regulations; and

“(B) aligning to the maximum practical extent the investigative and adjudicative standards and criteria for positions requiring access to classified information and national security sensitive positions not requiring access to classified information to ensure effective and efficient reciprocity and consistent designation of like-positions across the Federal Government.

“(e) WAIVER OF CERTAIN DEADLINES.—For each of fiscal years 2017 through 2019, the Secretary may waive any background investigation timeline specified in the Intelligence Reform and Prevention of Terrorism Act of 2004 if the Secretary submits to the appropriate committees of Congress a written notification on the waiver not later than 30 days before the beginning of the fiscal year concerned.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ has the meaning given that term in section 3001(a)(8) of the Intelligence Reform and Prevention of Terrorism Act of 2004 (50 U.S.C. 3341(a)(8)).

“(2) The term ‘business process mapping’ has the meaning given that term in section 2222(i) of title 10, United States Code.

“(3) The term ‘insider threat’ means, with respect to the Department, a threat presented by a person who—

“(A) has, or once had, authorized access to information, a facility, a network, a person, or a resource of the Department; and

“(B) wittingly, or unwittingly, commits—

“(i) an act in contravention of law or policy that resulted in, or might result in, harm through the loss or degradation of government or company information, resources, or capabilities; or

“(ii) a destructive act, which may include physical harm to another in the workplace.”

REFORM AND IMPROVEMENT OF PERSONNEL SECURITY, INSIDER THREAT DETECTION AND PREVENTION, AND PHYSICAL SECURITY

Pub. L. 114–92, div. A, title X, §1086, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1006, as amended by Pub. L. 114–328, div. A, title X, §1081(c)(7), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2420, provided that:

“(a) PERSONNEL SECURITY AND INSIDER THREAT PROTECTION IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—

“(1) PLANS AND SCHEDULES.—Consistent with the Memorandum of the Secretary of Defense dated March 18, 2014, regarding the recommendations of the reviews of the Washington Navy Yard shooting, the Secretary of Defense shall develop plans and schedules—

“(A) to implement a continuous evaluation capability for the national security population for which clearance adjudications are conducted by the Department of Defense Central Adjudication Facility, in coordination with the heads of other relevant agencies;

“(B) to produce a Department-wide insider threat strategy and implementation plan, which includes—

“(i) resourcing for the Defense Insider Threat Management and Analysis Center and component insider threat programs, and

“(ii) alignment of insider threat protection programs with continuous evaluation capabilities and processes for personnel security;

“(C) to centralize the authority, accountability, and programmatic integration responsibilities, including fiscal control, for personnel security and insider threat protection under the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence [now Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security];

“(D) to develop a defense security enterprise reform investment strategy to ensure a consistent, long-term focus on funding to strengthen all of the Department’s security and insider threat programs, policies, functions, and information technology capabilities, including detecting threat behaviors conveyed in the cyber domain, in a manner that keeps pace with evolving threats and risks;

“(E) to resource and expedite deployment of the Identity Management Enterprise Services Architecture; and

“(F) to implement the recommendations contained in the study conducted by the Director of Cost Analysis and Program Evaluation required by section 907 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2014 (Public Law 113-66; 10 U.S.C. 1564 note), including, specifically, the recommendations to centrally manage and regulate Department of Defense requests for personnel security background investigations.

“(2) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Nov. 25, 2015], the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the plans and schedules required under paragraph (1).

“(b) PHYSICAL AND LOGICAL ACCESS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act—

“(1) the Secretary of Defense shall define physical and logical access standards, capabilities, and processes applicable to all personnel with access to Department of Defense installations and information technology systems, including—

“(A) periodic or regularized background or records checks appropriate to the type of physical or logical access involved, the security level, the category of individuals authorized, and the level of access to be granted;

“(B) standards and methods for verifying the identity of individuals seeking access; and

“(C) electronic attribute-based access controls that are appropriate for the type of access and facility or information technology system involved;

“(2) the Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Chair of the Performance Accountability Council, in coordination with the Secretary of Defense, the Administrator of General Services, and, when appropriate, the Director of National Intelligence, and in consultation with representatives from stakeholder organizations, shall design a capability to share and apply electronic identity information across the Government to enable real-time, risk-managed physical and logical access decisions; and

“(3) the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, in conjunction with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management and in consultation with representatives from stakeholder organizations, shall establish investigative and adjudicative standards for the periodic or regularized reevaluation of the eligibility of an individual to retain credentials issued pursuant to Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (dated August 27, 2004), as appropriate, but not less frequently than the authorization period of the issued credentials.

“(c) SECURITY ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 25, 2015], the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall—

“(1) formalize the Security, Suitability, and Credentialing Line of Business; and

“(2) submit to the appropriate congressional committee a report that describes plans—

“(A) for oversight by the Office of Management and Budget of activities of the executive branch of the Government for personnel security, suitability, and credentialing;

“(B) to designate enterprise shared services to optimize investments;

“(C) to define and implement data standards to support common electronic access to critical Government records; and

“(D) to reduce the burden placed on Government data providers by centralizing requests for records access and ensuring proper sharing of the data with appropriate investigative and adjudicative elements.

“(d) RECIPROcity MANAGEMENT.—Not later than two years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Chair of the Performance Accountability Council shall ensure that—

“(1) a centralized system is available to serve as the reciprocity management system for the Federal Government; and

“(2) the centralized system described in paragraph (1) is aligned with, and incorporates results from, continuous evaluation and other enterprise reform initiatives.

“(e) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Chair of the Performance Accountability Council, in coordination with the Security Executive Agent, the Suitability Executive Agent, and the Secretary of Defense, shall jointly develop a plan to—

“(1) implement the Security Executive Agent Directive on common, standardized employee and contractor security reporting requirements;

“(2) establish and implement uniform reporting requirements for employees and Federal contractors, according to risk, relative to the safety of the workforce and protection of the most sensitive information of the Government; and

“(3) ensure that reported information is shared appropriately.

“(f) Access to Criminal History Records for National Security and Other Purposes.—

“(1) DEFINITION.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.]

“(2) COVERED AGENCIES.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(3) APPLICABLE PURPOSES OF INVESTIGATIONS.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(4) BIOMETRIC AND BIOGRAPHIC SEARCHES.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(5) USE OF MOST COST-EFFECTIVE SYSTEM.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(6) SEALED OR EXPUNGED RECORDS; JUVENILE RECORDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(B) REGULATIONS.—

“(i) DEFINITION.—In this subparagraph, the terms ‘Security Executive Agent’ and ‘Suitability Executive Agent’ mean the Security Executive Agent and the Suitability Executive Agent, respectively, established under Executive Order 13467 (73 Fed. Reg. 38103) [50 U.S.C. 3161 note], or any successor thereto.

“(ii) DEVELOPMENT; PROMULGATION.—The Security Executive Agent shall—

“(I) not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Nov. 25, 2015], and in conjunction with the Suitability Executive Agent and the Attorney General, begin developing regulations to implement the amendments made by subparagraph (A); and

“(II) not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, promulgate regulations to implement the amendments made by subparagraph (A).

“(C) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Federal Government should not uniformly reject applicants for employment with the

Federal Government or Federal contractors based on—

- “(i) sealed or expunged criminal records; or
- “(ii) juvenile records.

“(7) INTERACTION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES ABROAD.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(8) CLARIFICATION OF SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONTRACTORS CONDUCTING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(9) CLARIFICATION REGARDING ADVERSE ACTIONS.—[Amended section 7512 of Title 5.]

“(10) ANNUAL REPORT BY SUITABILITY AND SECURITY CLEARANCE PERFORMANCE ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL.—[Amended section 9101 of Title 5.]

“(11) GAO REPORT ON ENHANCING INTEROPERABILITY AND REDUCING REDUNDANCY IN FEDERAL CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION ACCESS CONTROL, BACKGROUND CHECK, AND CREDENTIALING STANDARDS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives], the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives, and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the background check, access control, and credentialing requirements of Federal programs for the protection of critical infrastructure and key resources.

“(B) CONTENTS.—The Comptroller General shall include in the report required under subparagraph (A)—

“(i) a summary of the major characteristics of each such Federal program, including the types of infrastructure and resources covered;

“(ii) a comparison of the requirements, whether mandatory or voluntary in nature, for regulated entities under each such program to—

“(I) conduct background checks on employees, contractors, and other individuals;

“(II) adjudicate the results of a background check, including the utilization of a standardized set of disqualifying offenses or the consideration of minor, non-violent, or juvenile offenses; and

“(III) establish access control systems to deter unauthorized access, or provide a security credential for any level of access to a covered facility or resource;

“(iii) a review of any efforts that the Screening Coordination Office of the Department of Homeland Security has undertaken or plans to undertake to harmonize or standardize background check, access control, or credentialing requirements for critical infrastructure and key resource protection programs overseen by the Department; and

“(iv) recommendations, developed in consultation with appropriate stakeholders, regarding—

“(I) enhancing the interoperability of security credentials across critical infrastructure and key resource protection programs;

“(II) eliminating the need for redundant background checks or credentials across existing critical infrastructure and key resource protection programs;

“(III) harmonizing, where appropriate, the standards for identifying potentially disqualifying criminal offenses and the weight assigned to minor, nonviolent, or juvenile offenses in adjudicating the results of a completed background check; and

“(IV) the development of common, risk-based standards with respect to the background check, access control, and security credentialing requirements for critical infrastructure and key resource protection programs.

“(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(A) the congressional defense committees [Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives];

“(B) the Select Committee on Intelligence and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

“(C) the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform [now Committee on Oversight and Accountability], and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives; and

“(2) the term ‘Performance Accountability Council’ means the Suitability and Security Clearance Performance Accountability Council established under Executive Order 13467 (73 Fed. Reg. 38103) [50 U.S.C. 3161 note], or any successor thereto.”

[Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title X, § 1081(c), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2419, provided that the amendment made by section 1081(c)(7) to section 1086 of Pub. L. 114-92, set out above, is effective as of Nov. 25, 2015, and as if included in Pub. L. 114-92 as enacted.]

PERSONNEL SECURITY

Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title IX, § 907, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 818, as amended by Pub. L. 115-91, div. A, title X, § 1051(s)(1), Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1566, provided that:

“(a) COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 26, 2013], the Secretary of Defense shall, acting through the Director of Cost Assessment and Program Evaluation and in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report setting forth a comprehensive analysis comparing the quality, cost, and timeliness of personnel security clearance investigations and reinvestigations for employees and contractor personnel of the Department of Defense that are conducted by the Office of Personnel Management with the quality, cost, and timeliness of personnel security clearance investigations and reinvestigations for such personnel that are conducted by components of the Department of Defense.

“(2) ELEMENTS OF ANALYSIS.—The analysis under paragraph (1) shall do the following:

“(A) Determine and compare, for each of the Office of Personnel Management and the components of the Department that conduct personnel security investigations as of the date of the analysis, the quality, cost, and timeliness associated with personnel security investigations and reinvestigations of each type and level of clearance, and identify the elements that contribute to such cost, schedule, and performance.

“(B) Identify mechanisms for permanently improving the transparency of the cost structure of personnel security investigations and reinvestigations.

“(b) PERSONNEL SECURITY FOR DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EMPLOYEES AND CONTRACTORS.—If the Secretary of Defense determines that the current approach for obtaining personnel security investigations and reinvestigations for employees and contractor personnel of the Department of Defense is not the most efficient and effective approach for the Department, the Secretary shall develop a plan, by not later than October 1, 2014, for the transition of personnel security investigations and reinvestigations to the approach preferred by the Secretary.

“(c) STRATEGY FOR MODERNIZING PERSONNEL SECURITY.—

“(1) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 26, 2013], the Secretary of Defense, the Director of National Intelligence, and the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall jointly develop, implement, and provide to the appropriate committees of

Congress a strategy to modernize all aspects of personnel security for the Department of Defense with the objectives of improving quality, providing for continuous monitoring, decreasing unauthorized disclosures of classified information, lowering costs, increasing efficiencies, and enabling and encouraging reciprocity.

“(2) CONSIDERATION OF ANALYSIS.—In developing the strategy under paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Directors shall consider the results of the analysis required by subsection (a) and the results of any ongoing reviews of recent unauthorized disclosures of national security information.

“(3) METRICS.—In developing the strategy required by paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Directors shall jointly establish metrics to measure the effectiveness of the strategy in meeting the objectives specified in that paragraph.

“(4) ELEMENTS.—In developing the strategy required by paragraph (1), the Secretary and the Directors shall address issues including but not limited to the following:

“(A) Elimination of manual or inefficient processes in investigations and reinvestigations for personnel security, wherever practicable, and automating and integrating the elements of the investigation and adjudication processes, including in the following:

“(i) The clearance application process.

“(ii) Investigation case management.

“(iii) Adjudication case management.

“(iv) Investigation methods for the collection, analysis, storage, retrieval, and transfer of data and records from investigative sources and between any case management systems.

“(v) Records management for hiring and clearance decisions.

“(B) Elimination or reduction, where possible, of the use of databases and information sources that cannot be accessed and processed automatically electronically, or modification of such databases and information sources, if appropriate and cost-effective, to enable electronic access and processing.

“(C) Access and analysis of government, publicly available, and commercial data sources, including social media, that provide independent information pertinent to adjudication guidelines and termination standards to improve quality and timeliness, and reduce costs, of investigations and reinvestigations.

“(D) Use of government-developed and commercial technology for continuous monitoring and evaluation of government and commercial data sources that can identify and flag information pertinent to hiring and clearance determinations.

“(E) Standardization of forms used for routine reporting required of cleared personnel (such as travel, foreign contacts, and financial disclosures) and use of continuous monitoring technology to access databases containing such reportable information to independently obtain and analyze reportable data and events.

“(F) Establishment of an authoritative central repository of personnel security information that is accessible electronically at multiple levels of classification and eliminates technical barriers to rapid access to information necessary for eligibility determinations and reciprocal recognition thereof, including the ability to monitor the status of an individual and any events related to the continued eligibility of such individual for employment or clearance during intervals between investigations.

“(G) Elimination or reduction of the scope of, or alteration of the schedule for, periodic reinvestigations of cleared personnel, when such action is appropriate in light of the information provided by continuous monitoring or evaluation technology.

“(H) Electronic integration of personnel security processes and information systems with insider threat detection and monitoring systems, and per-

tinent law enforcement, counterintelligence and intelligence information, for threat detection and correlation, including those processes and systems operated by components of the Department of Defense for purposes of local security, workforce management, or other related purposes.

“(5) RISK-BASED MONITORING.—The strategy required by paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) include the development of a risk-based approach to monitoring and reinvestigation that prioritizes which cleared individuals shall be subject to frequent reinvestigations and random checks, such as the personnel with the broadest access to classified information or with access to the most sensitive classified information, including information technology specialists or other individuals with such broad access commonly known as ‘super users’;

“(B) ensure that if the system of continuous monitoring for all cleared individuals described in paragraph (4)(D) is implemented in phases, such system shall be implemented on a priority basis for the individuals prioritized under subparagraph (A); and

“(C) ensure that the activities of individuals prioritized under subparagraph (A) shall be monitored especially closely.

“(d) RECIPROcity OF CLEARANCES.—The Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall jointly ensure the reciprocity of personnel security clearances among positions requiring personnel holding secret, top secret, or sensitive compartmented information clearances, to the maximum extent feasible consistent with national security requirements.

“(e) COMPTROLLER GENERAL REVIEW.—

“(1) REVIEW REQUIRED.—Not later than 150 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 26, 2013], the Comptroller General of the United States shall carry out a review of the personnel security process.

“(2) OBJECTIVE OF REVIEW.—The objective of the review required by paragraph (1) shall be to identify the following:

“(A) Differences between the metrics used by the Department of Defense and other departments and agencies that grant security clearances in granting reciprocity for security clearances, and the manner in which such differences can be harmonized.

“(B) The extent to which existing Federal Investigative Standards are relevant, complete, and sufficient for guiding agencies and individual investigators as they conduct their security clearance background investigations.

“(C) The processes agencies have implemented to ensure quality in the security clearance background investigation process.

“(D) The extent to which agencies have developed and implemented outcome-focused performance measures to track the quality of security clearance investigations and any insights from these measures.

“(E) The processes agencies have implemented for resolving incomplete or subpar investigations, and the actions taken against government employees and contractor personnel who have demonstrated a consistent failure to abide by quality assurance measures.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the results of the review required by paragraph (1).

“(f) TASK FORCE ON RECORDS ACCESS FOR SECURITY CLEARANCE BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.—

“(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Suitability and Security Clearance Performance Accountability Council, as established by Executive Order No. 13467 [50 U.S.C. 3161 note], shall convene a task force to examine the different policies and procedures that determine the level of access to public records provided by State and local authorities in response to investigative re-

quests by Federal Government employees or contracted employees carrying out background investigations to determine an individual's suitability for access to classified information or secure government facilities.

“(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The members of the task force shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:

“(A) The Chair of the Suitability and Security Clearance Performance and Accountability Council, who shall serve as chair of the task force.

“(B) A representative from the Office of Personnel Management.

“(C) A representative from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

“(D) A representative from the Department of Defense responsible for administering security clearance background investigations.

“(E) Representatives from Federal law enforcement agencies within the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security involved in security clearance background investigations.

“(F) Representatives from State and local law enforcement agencies, including—

“(i) agencies in rural areas that have limited resources and less than 500 officers; and

“(ii) agencies that have more than 1,000 officers and significant technological resources.

“(G) A representative from Federal, State, and local law enforcement associations involved with security clearance background administrative actions and appeals.

“(H) Representatives from Federal, State, and local judicial systems involved in the sharing of records to support security clearance background investigations.

“(3) INITIAL MEETING.—The task force shall convene its initial meeting not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 26, 2013].

“(4) DUTIES.—The task force shall do the following:

“(A) Analyze the degree to which State and local authorities comply with investigative requests made by Federal Government employees or contractor employees carrying out background investigations to determine an individual's suitability for access to classified information or secure government facilities, including the degree to which investigative requests are required but never formally requested.

“(B) Analyze limitations on the access to public records provided by State and local authorities in response to investigative requests by Federal Government employees and contractor employees described in subparagraph (A), including, but not be limited to, limitations relating to budget and staffing constraints on State and local authorities, any procedural and legal obstacles impairing Federal access to State and local law enforcement records, or inadequate investigative procedural standards for background investigators.

“(C) Provide recommendations for improving the degree of cooperation and records-sharing between State and local authorities and Federal Government employees and contractor employees described in subparagraph (A).

“(5) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the task force shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report setting forth a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the task force pursuant to this subsection, together with the recommendations of the task force for such legislative or administrative action as the task force considers appropriate.

“(g) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(1) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Select Committee on Intelligence of the Senate; and

“(2) the Committee on Armed Services, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform [now Committee on Oversight and Accountability], the Committee on Appropriations, and the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence of the House of Representatives.”

REQUIRED NOTIFICATION WHENEVER MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ARE COMPLETING STANDARD FORM 86 OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NATIONAL SECURITY POSITIONS

Pub. L. 113–66, div. A, title XVII, §1747, Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 983, provided that:

“(a) NOTIFICATION OF POLICY.—Whenever a member of the Armed Forces is required to complete Standard Form 86 of the Questionnaire for National Security Positions in connection with an application, investigation, or reinvestigation for a security clearance, the member shall be notified of the policy described in subsection (b) regarding question 21 of such form.

“(b) POLICY DESCRIBED.—The policy referred to in subsection (a) is the policy of instructing an individual to answer ‘no’ to question 21 of Standard Form 86 of the Questionnaire for National Security Positions with respect to consultation with a health care professional if—

“(1) the individual is a victim of a sexual assault; and

“(2) the consultation occurred with respect to an emotional or mental health condition strictly in relation to the sexual assault.”

DEADLINE FOR PRESCRIBING PROCESS FOR PRIORITIZING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS FOR SECURITY CLEARANCES

Pub. L. 106–398, §1 [[div. A], title X, §1072(c)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A–277, provided that the process required by subsec. (a) of this section for expediting the completion of security clearance background investigations was to be prescribed by Jan. 1, 2001.

Executive Documents

EX. ORD. NO. 13869. TRANSFERRING RESPONSIBILITY FOR BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Ex. Ord. No. 13869, Apr. 24, 2019, 84 F.R. 18125, provided:

By the power vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, it is hereby ordered as follows:

SECTION 1. *Findings and Purpose.* Section 925 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018 (10 U.S.C. 1564 note) provides that the Secretary of Defense has the authority to conduct security, suitability, and credentialing background investigations for Department of Defense personnel and requires the Secretary, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, to provide for a phased transition to the Department of Defense of the conduct of such investigations conducted by the National Background Investigations Bureau (NBIB). Implementing that legislative mandate while retaining the benefit of economies of scale in addressing the Federal Government's background investigations workload, avoiding unnecessary risk, promoting the ongoing alignment of efforts with respect to vetting Federal employees and contractors, and facilitating needed reforms in this critical area requires that the primary responsibility for conducting background investigations Government-wide be transferred from the Office of Personnel Management to the Department of Defense.

SEC. 2. *Transfer or Delegation of Background Investigation Functions; Further Amendments to Executive Order 13467 of June 30, 2008, as amended.* [Amended Ex. Ord. No. 13467, set out as a note under section 3161 of Title 50, War and National Defense.]

SEC. 3. *Amendment to Executive Order 12171 of November 18, 1979, as amended.*

(a) *Determinations.* Pursuant to section 7103(b)(1) of title 5, United States Code, the DCSA, previously known as the DSS, is hereby determined to have as a primary function intelligence, counterintelligence, investigative, or national security work. It is further determined that chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code, cannot be applied to the DCSA in a manner consistent with national security requirements and considerations.

(b) *Exclusion.* [Amended Ex. Ord. No. 12171, set out as a note under section 7103 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.]

SEC. 4. *Conforming References to the Defense Security Service and the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.* Any reference to the Defense Security Service or NBIB in any Executive Order or other Presidential document that is in effect on the day before the date of this order shall be deemed or construed to be a reference to the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency or any other entity that the Secretary of Defense names, consistent with section 2(b)(i) of Executive Order 13467, and agencies whose regulations, rules, or other documents reference the Defense Security Service or NBIB shall revise any such respective regulations, rules, or other documents as soon as practicable to update them for consistency with this order.

SEC. 5. *Review of Vetting Policies.* No later than July 24, 2019, the Council Principals identified in section 2.4(b) of Executive Order 13467 shall review the laws, regulations, Executive Orders, and guidance relating to the Federal Government's vetting of Federal employees and contractors and shall submit to the President, through the Chair of the Council, a report recommending any appropriate legislative, regulatory, or policy changes, including any such changes to civil service regulations or policies, Executive Order 13467 or Executive Order 13488 [5 U.S.C. 7301 note].

SEC. 6. *General Provisions.* (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

DONALD J. TRUMP.

§ 1564a. Counterintelligence polygraph program

(a) **AUTHORITY FOR PROGRAM.**—The Secretary of Defense may carry out a program for the administration of counterintelligence polygraph examinations to persons described in subsection (b). The program shall be conducted in accordance with the standards specified in subsection (e).

(b) **PERSONS COVERED.**—Except as provided in subsection (d), the following persons are subject to this section:

(1) With respect to persons whose duties are described in subsection (c)—

(A) military and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense;

(B) personnel of defense contractors;

(C) persons assigned or detailed to the Department of Defense; and

(D) applicants for a position in the Department of Defense.

(2) A person who is—

(A) a national of the United States (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Im-

migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)) and also a national of a foreign state; and

(B) either—

(i) a civilian employee or contractor who requires access to classified information; or

(ii) a member of the armed forces who requires access to classified information.

(c) **COVERED TYPES OF DUTIES.**—The Secretary of Defense may provide, under standards established by the Secretary, that a person described in subsection (b)(1) is subject to this section if that person's duties involve—

(1) access to information that—

(A) has been classified at the level of top secret; or

(B) is designated as being within a special access program under section 4.4(a) of Executive Order No. 12958 (or a successor Executive order); or

(2) assistance in an intelligence or military mission in a case in which the unauthorized disclosure or manipulation of information, as determined under standards established by the Secretary of Defense, could reasonably be expected to—

(A) jeopardize human life or safety;

(B) result in the loss of unique or uniquely productive intelligence sources or methods vital to United States security; or

(C) compromise technologies, operational plans, or security procedures vital to the strategic advantage of the United States and its allies.

(d) **EXCEPTIONS FROM COVERAGE FOR CERTAIN INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES AND FUNCTIONS.**—This section does not apply to the following persons:

(1) A person assigned or detailed to the Central Intelligence Agency or to an expert or consultant under a contract with the Central Intelligence Agency.

(2) A person who is—

(A) employed by or assigned or detailed to the National Security Agency;

(B) an expert or consultant under contract to the National Security Agency;

(C) an employee of a contractor of the National Security Agency; or

(D) a person applying for a position in the National Security Agency.

(3) A person assigned to a space where sensitive cryptographic information is produced, processed, or stored.

(4) A person employed by, or assigned or detailed to, an office within the Department of Defense for the collection of specialized national foreign intelligence through reconnaissance programs or a contractor of such an office.

(e) **STANDARDS.**—(1) Polygraph examinations conducted under this section shall comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

(2) Such examinations may be authorized for any of the following purposes:

(A) To assist in determining the initial eligibility for duties described in subsection (c) of, and aperiodically thereafter, on a random basis, to assist in determining the continued

eligibility of, persons described in subsections (b)(1) and (c).

(B) With the consent of, or upon the request of, the examinee, to—

(i) resolve serious credible derogatory information developed in connection with a personnel security investigation; or

(ii) exculpate him- or herself of allegations or evidence arising in the course of a counterintelligence or personnel security investigation.

(C) To assist, in a limited number of cases when operational exigencies require the immediate use of a person's services before the completion of a personnel security investigation, in determining the interim eligibility for duties described in subsection (c) of the person.

(D) With respect to persons described in subsection (b)(2), to assist in assessing any counterintelligence threats identified in an authorized investigation of foreign preference or foreign influence risks, as described in part 147 of title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, or such successor regulations.

(3) Polygraph examinations conducted under this section shall provide adequate safeguards, prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, for the protection of the rights and privacy of persons subject to this section under subsection (b) who are considered for or administered polygraph examinations under this section. Such safeguards shall include the following:

(A) The examinee shall receive timely notification of the examination and its intended purpose and may only be given the examination with the consent of the examinee.

(B) The examinee shall be advised of the examinee's right to consult with legal counsel.

(C) All questions asked concerning the matter at issue, other than technical questions necessary to the polygraph technique, must have a relevance to the subject of the inquiry.

(f) OVERSIGHT.—(1) The Secretary shall establish a process to monitor responsible and effective application of polygraph examinations within the Department of Defense.

(2) The Secretary shall make information on the use of polygraphs within the Department of Defense available to the congressional defense committees.

(g) POLYGRAPH RESEARCH PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out a continuing research program to support the polygraph examination activities of the Department of Defense. The program shall include the following:

(1) An on-going evaluation of the validity of polygraph techniques used by the Department.

(2) Research on polygraph countermeasures and anti-countermeasures.

(3) Developmental research on polygraph techniques, instrumentation, and analytic methods.

(Added Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title X, §1041(a)(1), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1607; amended Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1054(a), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3436; Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title XVI, §1623(a)-(c), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 2119.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order No. 12958, referred to in subsec. (c)(1)(B), which was formerly set out as a note under section 435 (now section 3161) of Title 50, War and National Defense, was revoked by Ex. Ord. No. 13526, §6.2(g), Dec. 29, 2009, 75 F.R. 731.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in Pub. L. 100-180, title XI, §1121, Dec. 4, 1987, 101 Stat. 1147, as amended, which was set out as a note under section 113 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title X, §1041(b), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1608.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-232, §1623(a), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: "Except as provided in subsection (d), the following persons, if their duties are described in subsection (c), are subject to this section:

"(1) Military and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense.

"(2) Personnel of defense contractors.

"(3) A person assigned or detailed to the Department of Defense.

"(4) An applicant for a position in the Department of Defense."

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115-232, §1623(c)(1), substituted "subsection (b)(1)" for "subsection (b)" in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (e)(2)(A). Pub. L. 115-232, §1623(c)(2), substituted "subsections (b)(1) and (c)" for "subsections (b) and (c)".

Subsec. (e)(2)(D). Pub. L. 115-232, §1623(b), added subpar. (D).

2006—Pub. L. 109-163 reenacted section catchline without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, section related to authority for program for administration of counterintelligence polygraph examinations in subsec. (a), persons covered in subsec. (b), exceptions from coverage for certain intelligence agencies and functions in subsec. (c), oversight in subsec. (d), and polygraph research program in subsec. (e).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1054(b), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3438, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to polygraph examinations administered beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 6, 2006]."

CONSTRUCTION

Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title XVI, §1623(d), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 2119, provided that: "Nothing in section 1564a of title 10, United States Code, as amended by this section, shall be construed to prohibit the granting of a security clearance to persons described in subsection (b)(2) of such section absent information relevant to the adjudication process, as described in part 147 of title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, or such successor regulations."

§ 1564b. Security vetting for foreign nationals

(a) STANDARDS AND PROCESS.—(1) The Secretary of Defense, in coordination with the Security Executive Agent established pursuant to Executive Order 13467 (73 Fed. Reg. 38103; 50 U.S.C. 3161 note), shall develop uniform and consistent standards and a centralized process for the screening and vetting of covered foreign individuals requiring access to systems, facilities,

personnel, information, or operations, of the Department of Defense, including with respect to the background investigations of covered foreign individuals requiring access to classified information.

(2) The Secretary shall ensure that the standards developed under paragraph (1) are consistent with relevant directives of the Security Executive Agent.

(3) The Secretary shall designate an official of the Department of Defense to be responsible for executing the centralized process developed under paragraph (1) and adjudicating any information discovered pursuant to such process.

(b) OTHER USES.—In addition to using the centralized process developed under subsection (a)(1) for covered foreign individuals, the Secretary may use the centralized process in determining whether to grant a security clearance to any individual with significant foreign influence or foreign preference issues, in accordance with the adjudicative guidelines under part 147 of title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, or such successor regulation.

(c) COVERED FOREIGN INDIVIDUAL DEFINED.—In this section, the term “covered foreign individual” means an individual who meets the following criteria:

(1) The individual is—

(A) a national of a foreign state;

(B) a national of the United States (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)) and also a national of a foreign state; or

(C) an alien who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence (as such term is defined in section 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)).

(2) The individual is either—

(A) a civilian employee of the Department of Defense or a contractor of the Department; or

(B) a member of the armed forces.

(Added Pub. L. 115-232, div. A, title XVI, § 1622(a), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 2117.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Executive Order 13467, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), is Ex. Ord. No. 13467, June 30, 2008, 73 F.R. 38103, which is set out as a note under section 3161 of Title 50, War and National Defense.

§ 1565. DNA identification information: collection from certain offenders; use

(a) COLLECTION OF DNA SAMPLES.—(1) The Secretary concerned shall collect a DNA sample from each member of the armed forces under the Secretary’s jurisdiction who is, or has been, convicted of a qualifying military offense (as determined under subsection (d)).

(2) For each member described in paragraph (1), if the Combined DNA Index System (in this section referred to as “CODIS”) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation contains a DNA analysis with respect to that member, or if a DNA sample has been or is to be collected from that member under section 3(a) of the DNA Analysis Backlog

Elimination Act of 2000, the Secretary concerned may (but need not) collect a DNA sample from that member.

(3) The Secretary concerned may enter into agreements with other Federal agencies, units of State or local government, or private entities to provide for the collection of samples described in paragraph (1).

(b) ANALYSIS AND USE OF SAMPLES.—The Secretary concerned shall furnish each DNA sample collected under subsection (a) to the Secretary of Defense. The Secretary of Defense shall—

(1) carry out a DNA analysis on each such DNA sample in a manner that complies with the requirements for inclusion of that analysis in CODIS; and

(2) furnish the results of each such analysis to the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for inclusion in CODIS.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “DNA sample” means a tissue, fluid, or other bodily sample of an individual on which a DNA analysis can be carried out.

(2) The term “DNA analysis” means analysis of the deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) identification information in a bodily sample.

(d) QUALIFYING MILITARY OFFENSES.—The offenses that shall be treated for purposes of this section as qualifying military offenses are the following offenses, as determined by the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Attorney General:

(1) Any offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice for which a sentence of confinement for more than one year may be imposed.

(2) Any other offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice that is comparable to a qualifying Federal offense (as determined under section 3(d) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14135a(d))).¹

(e) EXPUNGEMENT.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall promptly expunge, from the index described in subsection (a) of section 210304 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, the DNA analysis of a person included in the index on the basis of a qualifying military offense if the Secretary receives, for each conviction of the person of a qualifying offense, a certified copy of a final court order establishing that such conviction has been overturned.

(2) For purposes of paragraph (1), the term “qualifying offense” means any of the following offenses:

(A) A qualifying Federal offense, as determined under section 3 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000.

(B) A qualifying District of Columbia offense, as determined under section 4 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000.

(C) A qualifying military offense.

(3) For purposes of paragraph (1), a court order is not “final” if time remains for an appeal or application for discretionary review with respect to the order.

¹ See References in Text note below.

(f) REGULATIONS.—This section shall be carried out under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General. Those regulations shall apply, to the extent practicable, uniformly throughout the armed forces.

(Added Pub. L. 106-546, §5(a)(1), Dec. 19, 2000, 114 Stat. 2731; amended Pub. L. 107-296, title XVII, §1704(b)(1), Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2314; Pub. L. 108-405, title II, §203(c), Oct. 30, 2004, 118 Stat. 2270.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 3 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, referred to in subsecs. (a)(2), (d)(2), and (e)(2)(A), is section 3 of Pub. L. 106-546, which was classified to section 14135a of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification as section 40702 of Title 34, Crime Control and Law Enforcement.

Section 4 of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000, referred to in subsec. (e)(2)(B), is section 4 of Pub. L. 106-546, which is classified to section 40703 of Title 34, Crime Control and Law Enforcement.

The Uniform Code of Military Justice, referred to in subsec. (d), is classified to chapter 47 (§801 et seq.) of this title.

Section 210304 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, referred to in subsec. (e)(1), is classified to section 12592 of Title 34, Crime Control and Law Enforcement.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 108-405 reenacted heading without change and amended text generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows:

“(1) Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Attorney General, shall determine those felony or sexual offenses under the Uniform Code of Military Justice that shall be treated for purposes of this section as qualifying military offenses.

“(2) An offense under the Uniform Code of Military Justice that is comparable to a qualifying Federal offense (as determined under section 3(d) of the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000), as determined by the Secretary in consultation with the Attorney General, shall be treated for purposes of this section as a qualifying military offense.”

2002—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 107-296 substituted “of Homeland Security” for “of Transportation”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

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.

INITIAL DETERMINATION OF QUALIFYING MILITARY OFFENSES

Pub. L. 106-546, §5(b), Dec. 19, 2000, 114 Stat. 2733, provided that: “The initial determination of qualifying military offenses under section 1565(d) of title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (a)(1), shall be made not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 19, 2000].”

COMMENCEMENT OF COLLECTION

Pub. L. 106-546, §5(c), Dec. 19, 2000, 114 Stat. 2733, provided that: “Collection of DNA samples under section 1565(a) of such title, as added by subsection (a)(1), shall,

subject to the availability of appropriations, commence not later than the date that is 60 days after the date of the initial determination referred to in subsection (b) [set out above].”

§ 1565a. DNA samples maintained for identification of human remains: use for law enforcement purposes

(a) COMPLIANCE WITH COURT ORDER.—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), if a valid order of a Federal court (or military judge) so requires, an element of the Department of Defense that maintains a repository of DNA samples for the purpose of identification of human remains shall make available, for the purpose specified in subsection (b), such DNA samples on such terms and conditions as such court (or military judge) directs.

(2) A DNA sample with respect to an individual shall be provided under paragraph (1) in a manner that does not compromise the ability of the Department of Defense to maintain a sample with respect to that individual for the purpose of identification of human remains.

(b) COVERED PURPOSE.—The purpose referred to in subsection (a) is the purpose of an investigation or prosecution of a felony, or any sexual offense, for which no other source of DNA information is reasonably available.

(c) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “DNA sample” has the meaning given such term in section 1565(c) of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title X, §1063(a), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2653.)

§ 1565b. Victims of sexual assault: access to legal assistance and services of Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Sexual Assault Victim Advocates

(a) AVAILABILITY OF LEGAL ASSISTANCE AND VICTIM ADVOCATE SERVICES.—(1) A member of the armed forces, or a dependent of a member, who is the victim of a sexual assault may be provided the following:

(A) Legal assistance provided by military or civilian legal assistance counsel pursuant to sections 1044 and 1044e of this title.

(B) Assistance provided by a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator.

(C) Assistance provided by a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate.

(2) A member of the armed forces or dependent who is the victim of sexual assault shall be informed of the availability of assistance under paragraph (1) as soon as the member or dependent seeks assistance from a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate, a military criminal investigator, a victim/witness liaison, or a trial counsel. The member or dependent shall also be informed that the legal assistance and the services of a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate under paragraph (1) are optional and may be declined, in whole or in part, at any time.

(3) Subject to such exceptions for exigent circumstances as the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of the Department in which the Coast Guard is operating may prescribe, notice of the availability of a Special Victims' Counsel under

section 1044e of this title shall be provided to a member of the armed forces or dependent who is the victim of sexual assault before any military criminal investigator or trial counsel interviews, or requests any statement from, the member or dependent regarding the alleged sexual assault.

(4) Legal assistance and the services of Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Sexual Assault Victim Advocates under paragraph (1) shall be available to a member or dependent regardless of whether the member or dependent elects unrestricted or restricted (confidential) reporting of the sexual assault.

(b) RESTRICTED REPORTING.—(1) Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense, a member of the armed forces, or an adult dependent of a member, who is the victim of a sexual assault may elect to confidentially disclose the details of the assault to an individual specified in paragraph (2) and receive medical treatment, legal assistance under section 1044 of this title, or counseling, without initiating an official investigation of the allegations.

(2) The individuals specified in this paragraph are the following:

- (A) A Sexual Assault Response Coordinator.
- (B) A Sexual Assault Victim Advocate.
- (C) Healthcare personnel specifically identified in the regulations required by paragraph (1).

(3) In the case of information disclosed pursuant to paragraph (1), any State law or regulation that would require an individual specified in paragraph (2) to disclose the personally identifiable information of the adult victim or alleged perpetrator of the sexual assault to a State or local law enforcement agency shall not apply, except when reporting is necessary to prevent or mitigate a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of an individual.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) SEXUAL ASSAULT.—The term “sexual assault” includes the offenses of rape, sexual assault, forcible sodomy, aggravated sexual contact, abusive sexual contact, and attempts to commit such offenses, as punishable under applicable Federal or State law.

(2) STATE.—The term “State” includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(Added Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §581(b)(1), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1431; amended Pub. L. 113-66, div. A, title XVII, §1716(a)(3)(C), Dec. 26, 2013, 127 Stat. 969; Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title V, §§534(b), 536, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 816, 817.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2015—Subsec. (a)(3), (4). Pub. L. 114-92, §534(b), added par. (3) and redesignated former par. (3) as (4).

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 114-92, §536(b), substituted “an adult dependent” for “a dependent”.

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 114-92, §536(a), added par. (3).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 114-92, §536(c), added subsec. (c).

2013—Subsec. (a)(1)(A). Pub. L. 113-66 substituted “sections 1044 and 1044e” for “section 1044”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

DISSEMINATION OF CIVILIAN LEGAL SERVICES INFORMATION

Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title V, §549C, Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2591, provided that: “Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 23, 2022], the Secretary of Defense, acting through the head of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office of the Department of Defense, shall ensure that information on the availability of legal resources from civilian legal service organizations is distributed to military-connected sexual assault victims in an organized and consistent manner.”

COORDINATION OF SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL TRAUMA

Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title V, §538, Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3605, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Jan. 1, 2021], the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs shall jointly develop, implement, and maintain a standard of coordinated care for members of the Armed Forces who are survivors of sexual trauma. Such standard shall include the following:

“(b) MINIMUM ELEMENTS.—The standard developed and implemented under subsection (a) by the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs shall include the following:

“(1) INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that—

“(A) Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Uniformed Victim Advocates receive annual training on resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs regarding sexual trauma;

“(B) information regarding services furnished by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to survivors of sexual trauma is provided to each such survivor; and

“(C) information described in subparagraph (B) is posted in the following areas in each facility of the Department of Defense:

“(i) An office of the Family Advocacy Program.

“(ii) An office of a mental health care provider.

“(iii) Each area in which sexual assault prevention staff normally post notices or information.

“(iv) High-traffic areas (including dining facilities).

“(2) COORDINATION BETWEEN STAFF OF THE DEPARTMENTS.—The Secretaries shall ensure that a Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or Uniformed Victim Advocate of the Department of Defense who receives a report of an instance of sexual trauma connects the survivor to the Military Sexual Trauma Coordinator of the Department of Veterans Affairs at the facility of that Department nearest to the residence of that survivor if that survivor is a member separating or retiring from the Armed Forces.

“(c) REPORTS.—

“(1) REPORT ON RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs shall provide a report to the appropriate committees of Congress regarding the availability of residential treatment programs for survivors of sexual trauma, including—

“(A) barriers to access for such programs; and

“(B) resources required to reduce such barriers.

“(2) INITIAL REPORT.—Upon implementation of the standard under subsection (a), the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs shall jointly submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the standard.

“(3) PROGRESS REPORTS.—Not later than 180 days after submitting the initial report under paragraph (2), and on December 1 of each subsequent year, the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs shall

jointly submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on the progress of the Secretaries in implementing and improving the standard.

“(4) UPDATES.—Whenever the Secretaries of Defense and Veterans Affairs update the standard developed under subsection (a), the Secretaries shall jointly submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report on such update, including a comprehensive and detailed description of such update and the reasons for such update.

“(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) The term ‘sexual trauma’ means a condition described in section 1720D(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code.

“(2) The term ‘appropriate committees of Congress’ means—

“(A) the Committees on Veterans’ Affairs of the House of Representatives and the Senate; and

“(B) the Committees on Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the Senate.”

INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES ON AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS RELATING TO SEXUAL TRAUMA

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, §599, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1421, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall inform members of the Armed Forces, using mechanisms available to the Secretary, of the eligibility of such members for services of the Department of Veterans Affairs relating to sexual trauma.

“(b) INFORMATION FROM SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATORS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure—

“(1) that Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and uniformed victims advocates of the Department of Defense advise members of the Armed Forces who report instances of sexual trauma regarding the eligibility of such members for services at the Department of Veterans Affairs; and

“(2) that such information is included in mandatory training materials.

“(c) SEXUAL TRAUMA DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘sexual trauma’ means psychological trauma described in section 1720D(a)(1) of title 38, United States Code.”

LEGAL ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title V, §581(a), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1430, provided that: “Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 31, 2011], the Secretaries of the military departments shall prescribe regulations on the provision of legal assistance to victims of sexual assault. Such regulations shall require that legal assistance be provided by military or civilian legal assistance counsel pursuant to section 1044 of title 10, United States Code.”

§ 1566. Voting assistance: compliance assessments; assistance

(a) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations to require that the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force ensure their compliance with any directives issued by the Secretary of Defense in implementing any voting assistance program.

(b) VOTING ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “voting assistance programs” means—

(1) the Federal Voting Assistance Program carried out under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seq.);¹ and

(2) any similar program.

(c) ANNUAL EFFECTIVENESS AND COMPLIANCE REVIEWS.—(1) The Inspector General of each of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force shall conduct—

(A) an annual review of the effectiveness of voting assistance programs; and

(B) an annual review of the compliance with voting assistance programs of that armed force.

(2) Upon the completion of each annual review under paragraph (1), each Inspector General specified in that paragraph shall submit to the Inspector General of the Department of Defense a report on the results of each such review. Such report shall be submitted in time each year to be reflected in the report of the Inspector General of the Department of Defense under paragraph (3).

(3) Not later than March 31 each year, the Inspector General of the Department of Defense shall submit to Congress a report on—

(A) the effectiveness during the preceding calendar year of voting assistance programs; and

(B) the level of compliance during the preceding calendar year with voting assistance programs of each of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Space Force.

[(d) Repealed. Pub. L. 109-364, div. A, title V, §596(a), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2235.]

(e) REGULAR MILITARY DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENTS.—The Secretary of each military department shall include in the set of issues and programs to be reviewed during any management effectiveness review or inspection at the installation level an assessment of compliance with the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seq.)¹ and with Department of Defense regulations regarding the Federal Voting Assistance Program.

(f) VOTING ASSISTANCE OFFICERS.—(1) Voting assistance officers shall be appointed or assigned under Department of Defense regulations. Commanders at all levels are responsible for ensuring that unit voting officers are trained and equipped to provide information and assistance to members of the armed forces on voting matters. Performance evaluation reports pertaining to a member who has been assigned to serve as a voting assistance officer shall comment on the performance of the member as a voting assistance officer.

(2) Under regulations and procedures (including directives) prescribed by the Secretary, a member of the armed forces appointed or assigned to duty as a voting assistance officer shall, to the maximum extent practicable, be given the time and resources needed to perform the member’s duties as a voting assistance officer during the period in advance of a general election when members and their dependents are preparing and submitting absentee ballots.

(g) DELIVERY OF MAIL FROM OVERSEAS PRECEDING FEDERAL ELECTIONS.—(1) During the four months preceding a general Federal election month, the Secretary of Defense shall periodically conduct surveys of all overseas locations and vessels at sea with military units responsible for collecting mail for return shipment to the United States and all port facilities in the

¹ See References in Text note below.

United States and overseas where military-related mail is collected for shipment to overseas locations or to the United States. The purpose of each survey shall be to determine if voting materials are awaiting shipment at any such location and, if so, the length of time that such materials have been held at that location. During the fourth and third months before a general Federal election month, such surveys shall be conducted biweekly. During the second and first months before a general Federal election month, such surveys shall be conducted weekly.

(2) The Secretary shall ensure that voting materials are transmitted expeditiously by military postal authorities at all times. The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, implement measures to ensure that a postmark or other official proof of mailing date is provided on each absentee ballot collected at any overseas location or vessel at sea whenever the Department of Defense is responsible for collecting mail for return shipment to the United States. The Secretary shall ensure that the measures implemented under the preceding sentence do not result in the delivery of absentee ballots to the final destination of such ballots after the date on which the election for Federal office is held.

(3) In this section, the term “general Federal election month” means November in an even-numbered year.

(h) NOTICE OF DEADLINES AND REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary of each military department, utilizing the voting assistance officer network established for each military installation, shall, to the maximum extent practicable, provide notice to members of the armed forces stationed at that installation of the last date before a general Federal election for which absentee ballots mailed from a postal facility located at that installation can reasonably be expected to be timely delivered to the appropriate State and local election officials.

(i) REGISTRATION AND VOTING INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND DEPENDENTS.—(1) The Secretary of each military department, using a variety of means including both print and electronic media, shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that members of the armed forces and their dependents who are qualified to vote have ready access to information regarding voter registration requirements and deadlines (including voter registration), absentee ballot application requirements and deadlines, and the availability of voting assistance officers to assist members and dependents to understand and comply with these requirements.

(2) The Secretary of each military department shall make the national voter registration form prepared for purposes of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act by the Federal Election Commission available so that each person who enlists shall receive such form at the time of the enlistment, or as soon thereafter as practicable.

(3) Where practicable, a special day or days shall be designated at each military installation for the purpose of informing members of the armed forces and their dependents of election timing, registration requirements, and voting procedures.

(Added Pub. L. 107–107, div. A, title XVI, §1602(a)(1), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1274; amended Pub. L. 107–252, title VII, §701, Oct. 29, 2002, 116 Stat. 1722; Pub. L. 108–375, div. A, title X, §1084(d)(13), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2062; Pub. L. 109–364, div. A, title V, §596(a), (d), Oct. 17, 2006, 120 Stat. 2235, 2236; Pub. L. 116–283, div. A, title IX, §924(b)(1)(M), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3820.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, referred to in subsecs. (b)(1), (e), and (i)(2), is Pub. L. 99–410, Aug. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 924, which was formerly classified principally to subchapter I–G (§1973ff et seq.) of chapter 20 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering in Title 52, Voting and Elections, and is now classified principally to chapter 203 (§20301 et seq.) of Title 52. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2021—Subsecs. (a), (c)(1), (3)(B). Pub. L. 116–283 substituted “Marine Corps, and Space Force” for “and Marine Corps”.

2006—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 109–364, §596(a), struck out subsec. (d), which required the Inspector General of the Department of Defense to periodically conduct unannounced assessments of compliance with requirements of law regarding voting by members of the armed forces at Department of Defense installations.

Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 109–364, §596(d), struck out at end “Not later than April 29, 2003, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the measures to be implemented to ensure the timely transmittal and postmarking of voting materials and identifying the persons responsible for implementing such measures.”

2004—Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 108–375, §1084(d)(13)(A), substituted “April 29, 2003” for “the date that is 6 months after the date of the enactment of the Help America Vote Act of 2002”.

Subsecs. (h), (i)(1), (3). Pub. L. 108–375, §1084(d)(13)(B), substituted “armed forces” for “Armed Forces”.

2002—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 107–252, §701(a), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 107–252, §701(b), inserted at end “The Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, implement measures to ensure that a postmark or other official proof of mailing date is provided on each absentee ballot collected at any overseas location or vessel at sea whenever the Department of Defense is responsible for collecting mail for return shipment to the United States. The Secretary shall ensure that the measures implemented under the preceding sentence do not result in the delivery of absentee ballots to the final destination of such ballots after the date on which the election for Federal office is held. Not later than the date that is 6 months after the date of the enactment of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the measures to be implemented to ensure the timely transmittal and postmarking of voting materials and identifying the persons responsible for implementing such measures.”

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 107–252, §701(c), added subsec. (h).

Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 107–252, §701(d), added subsec. (i).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TERMINATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

For termination, effective Dec. 31, 2021, of provisions in subsec. (c)(3) of this section requiring submittal of

annual report to Congress, see section 1061 of Pub. L. 114-328, set out as a note under section 111 of this title.

INFORMATION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR REGISTRATION FOR VOTING AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUESTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES UNDERGOING DEPLOYMENT OVERSEAS

Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, § 580C, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1409, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days prior to a general election for Federal office, a member of the Armed Forces shall, upon request, be provided with the following:

“(1) A Federal write-in absentee ballot prescribed pursuant to section 103 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20303), together with instructions on the appropriate use of the ballot with respect to the State in which the member is registered to vote.

“(2) In the case of a member intending to vote in a State that does not accept the Federal write-in absentee ballot as a simultaneous application and acceptable ballot for Federal elections, instructions on, and an opportunity to fill out, the official post card form for absentee voter registration application and absentee ballot application prescribed under section 101(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (52 U.S.C. 20301(b)(2)).

“(b) PERSONNEL RESPONSIBLE OF DISCHARGE.—Ballots and instructions pursuant to paragraph (1) of subsection (a), and briefings and forms pursuant to paragraph (2) of such subsection, shall be provided by Voting Assistance Officers or such other personnel as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall designate.”

INITIAL REPORT

Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title XVI, § 1602(b), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1276, directed that the first report under subsec. (c)(3) of this section be submitted not later than Mar. 31, 2003.

§ 1566a. Voting assistance: voter assistance offices

(a) DESIGNATION OF OFFICES ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS AS VOTER ASSISTANCE OFFICES.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense under subsection (f), the Secretaries of the military departments shall designate offices on installations under their jurisdiction, or at such installations as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall determine are best located to provide access to voter assistance services for all covered individuals in a particular location, to provide absent uniformed services voters, particularly those individuals described in subsection (b), and their family members with the following:

(1) Information on voter registration procedures and absentee ballot procedures (including the official post card form prescribed under section 101 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff)).¹

(2) Information and assistance, if requested, including access to the Internet where practicable, to register to vote in an election for Federal office.

(3) Information and assistance, if requested, including access to the Internet where practicable, to update the individual's voter registration information, including instructions for absent uniformed services voters to change

their address by submitting the official post card form prescribed under section 101 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to the appropriate State election official.

(4) Information and assistance, if requested, to request an absentee ballot under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff et seq.).¹

(b) COVERED INDIVIDUALS.—The individuals described in this subsection are absent uniformed services voters who—

(1) are undergoing a permanent change of duty station;

(2) are deploying overseas for at least six months;

(3) are returning from an overseas deployment of at least six months; or

(4) otherwise request assistance related to voter registration.

(c) TIMING OF PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE.—The regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense under subsection (f) shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable and consistent with military necessity, that the assistance provided under subsection (a) is provided to a covered individual described in subsection (b)—

(1) if described in subsection (b)(1), as part of the administrative in-processing of the covered individual upon arrival at the new duty station of the covered individual;

(2) if described in subsection (b)(2), as part of the administrative out-processing of the covered individual in preparation for deployment from the home duty station of the covered individual;

(3) if described in subsection (b)(3), as part of the administrative in-processing of the covered individual upon return to the home duty station of the covered individual; or

(4) if described in subsection (b)(4), at the time the covered individual requests such assistance.

(d) OUTREACH.—The Secretary of each military department, or the Presidential designee, shall take appropriate actions to inform absent uniformed services voters of the assistance available under subsection (a), including—

(1) the availability of information and voter registration assistance at offices designated under subsection (a); and

(2) the time, location, and manner in which an absent uniformed services voter may utilize such assistance.

(e) AUTHORITY TO DESIGNATE VOTING ASSISTANCE OFFICES AS VOTER REGISTRATION AGENCY ON MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.—The Secretary of Defense may authorize the Secretaries of the military departments to designate offices on military installations as voter registration agencies under section 7(a)(2) of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 1973gg-5(a)(2))¹ for all purposes of such Act. Any office so designated shall discharge the requirements of this section, under the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of Defense under subsection (f).

(f) REGULATIONS.—

(1) The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe regulations relating to the administration of

¹ See References in Text note below.

the requirements of this section. The regulations shall be prescribed before the regularly scheduled general election for Federal office held in November 2010, and shall be implemented for such general election for Federal office and for each succeeding election for Federal office.

(2) The Secretary of a military department shall provide the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives with notice of any decision by the Secretary to close a voter assistance office that was designated on an installation before the date of the enactment of this paragraph. The notice shall include the rationale for the closure, the timing of the closure, the number of covered individuals supported by the office, and the plan for providing the assistance available under subsection (a) to covered individuals after the closure of the office.

(g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term “absent uniformed services voter” has the meaning given that term in section 107(1) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6(1)).¹

(2) The term “Federal office” has the meaning given that term in section 107(3) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff-6(3)).¹

(3) The term “Presidential designee” means the official designated by the President under section 101(a) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (42 U.S.C. 1973ff(a)).¹

(Added Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title V, §583(b)(1), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2328; amended Pub. L. 111-383, div. A, title X, §1075(b)(21), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4370; Pub. L. 113-291, div. A, title V, §592, title X, §1071(e)(2), Dec. 19, 2014, 128 Stat. 3395, 3509.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 99-410, Aug. 28, 1986, 100 Stat. 924, which was formerly classified principally to subchapter I-G (§1973ff et seq.) of chapter 20 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering in Title 52, Voting and Elections, and is now classified principally to chapter 203 (§20301 et seq.) of Title 52. Sections 101 and 107 of the Act are now classified to sections 20301 and 20310, respectively, of Title 52. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

The National Voter Registration Act of 1993, referred to in subsec. (e), is Pub. L. 103-31, May 20, 1993, 107 Stat. 77, which was formerly classified principally to subchapter I-H (§1973gg et seq.) of chapter 20 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, prior to editorial reclassification and renumbering in Title 52, Voting and Elections, and is now classified principally to chapter 205 (§20501 et seq.) of Title 52. Section 7 of the Act is now classified to section 20506 of Title 52. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 113-291, §1071(e)(2), which directed substitution of “Under” for “Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 and under” in introductory provisions, could not be exe-

cuted because of the prior amendment by Pub. L. 113-291, §592(a)(1). See below.

Pub. L. 113-291, §592(a), in introductory provisions, substituted “Under” for “Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 and under” and inserted “, or at such installations as the Secretary of the military department concerned shall determine are best located to provide access to voter assistance services for all covered individuals in a particular location,” after “their jurisdiction”.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 113-291, §592(b), designated existing provisions as par. (1) and added par. (2).

2011—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 111-383 inserted closing parenthesis before period at end.

§ 1567. Duration of military protective orders

A military protective order issued by a military commander shall remain in effect until such time as the military commander terminates the order or issues a replacement order.

(Added Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title V, §561(a), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4470; amended Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title X, §1073(a)(16), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2473.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2009—Pub. L. 111-84 made technical amendment to section catchline.

§ 1567a. Mandatory notification of issuance of military protective order to civilian law enforcement

(a) INITIAL NOTIFICATION.—In the event a military protective order is issued against a member of the armed forces, the commander of the unit to which the member is assigned shall, not later than seven days after the date of the issuance of the order, notify the appropriate civilian authorities of—

- (1) the issuance of the protective order; and
- (2) the individuals involved in the order.

(b) NOTIFICATION IN EVENT OF TRANSFER.—In the event that a member of the armed forces against whom a military protective order is issued is transferred to another unit—

- (1) not later than the date of the transfer, the commander of the unit from which the member is transferred shall notify the commander of the unit to which the member is transferred of—

- (A) the issuance of the protective order; and
- (B) the individuals involved in the order; and

- (2) not later than seven days after receiving the notice under paragraph (1), the commander of the unit to which the member is transferred shall provide notice of the order to the appropriate civilian authorities in accordance with subsection (a).

(c) NOTIFICATION OF CHANGES OR TERMINATION.—The commander of the unit to which the member is assigned also shall notify the appropriate civilian authorities of—

- (1) any change made in a protective order covered by subsection (a); and
- (2) the termination of the protective order.

(Added Pub. L. 110-417, [div. A], title V, § 562(a), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4470; amended Pub. L. 111-84, div. A, title X, § 1073(a)(17), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2473; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title V, § 543(a), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1376.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 116-92, § 543(a)(1), substituted “, the commander of the unit to which the member is assigned shall, not later than seven days after the date of the issuance of the order, notify” for “and any individual involved in the order does not reside on a military installation at any time during the duration of the military protective order, the commander of the military installation shall notify” in introductory provisions.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 116-92, § 543(a)(3), added subsec. (b). Former subsec. (b) redesignated (c).

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 116-92, § 543(a)(2), (4), redesignated subsec. (b) as (c) and substituted “commander of the unit to which the member is assigned” for “commander of the military installation”.

2009—Pub. L. 111-84 made technical amendment to section catchline.

CHAPTER 81—CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

- Sec. 1580. Emergency essential employees: designation.
- 1580a. Emergency essential employees: notification of required participation in anthrax vaccine immunization program.
- 1581. Foreign National Employees Separation Pay Account.
- 1582. Assistive technology, assistive technology devices, and assistive technology services.
- 1583. Employment of certain persons without pay.
- 1584. Employment of non-citizens.
- 1585. Carrying of firearms.
- 1585a. Special agents of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service: authority to execute warrants and make arrests.
- 1586. Rotation of career-conditional and career employees assigned to duty outside the United States.
- 1587. Employees of nonappropriated fund instrumentalities: reprisals.
- 1587a. Employees of nonappropriated fund instrumentalities: senior executive pay levels.
- 1588. Authority to accept certain voluntary services.
- 1589. Participation in management of specified non-Federal entities: authorized activities.
- [1590. Repealed.]
- 1591. Reimbursement for travel and transportation expenses when accompanying Members of Congress.
- 1592. Prohibition on payment of severance pay to foreign nationals in the event of certain overseas base closures.
- 1593. Uniform allowance: civilian employees.
- 1594. Reimbursement for financial institution charges incurred because of Government error in direct deposit of pay.
- 1595. Civilian faculty members at certain Department of Defense schools: employment and compensation.
- 1596. Foreign language proficiency: special pay for proficiency beneficial for intelligence interests.
- 1596a. Foreign language proficiency: special pay for proficiency beneficial for other national security interests.
- 1596b. Foreign language proficiency: National Foreign Language Skills Registry.
- 1596c. Programming language proficiency: special pay for proficiency beneficial for national security interests.

- Sec. 1597. Civilian positions: guidelines for reductions.
- 1598. Assistance to terminated employees to obtain certification and employment as teachers or employment as teachers' aides.
- [1599. Renumbered.]
- 1599a. Financial assistance to certain employees in acquisition of critical skills.
- 1599b. Employees abroad: travel expenses; health care.
- 1599c. Health care professionals: enhanced appointment and compensation authority for personnel for care and treatment of wounded and injured members of the armed forces.
- 1599d. Financial management positions: authority to prescribe professional certification and credential standards.
- [1599e. Repealed.]
- 1599f. United States Cyber Command recruitment and retention.
- 1599g. Public-private talent exchange.
- [1599h. Renumbered.]
- 1599i. Recruitment incentives for placement at remote locations.
- 1599j. Restricted reports of incidents of adult sexual assault.

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

- 2022—Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title XI, § 1101(b), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2815, added item 1599j.
- 2021—Pub. L. 117-81, div. A, title XI, § 1106(b)(1), title XVII, § 1701(w)(1), Dec. 27, 2021, 135 Stat. 1950, 2154, struck out items 1599e “Probationary period for employees” and 1599h “Personnel management authority to attract experts in science and engineering”.
- Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title II, § 241(c)(2), title XI, § 1120(d), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3487, 3900, added items 1596c and 1599i.
- 2016—Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XI, §§ 1104(b), 1121(a)(2), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2447, 2452, added items 1599g and 1599h.
- 2015—Pub. L. 114-92, div. A, title XI, §§ 1105(a)(2), 1107(c), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1024, 1027, added items 1599e and 1599f.
- 2011—Pub. L. 112-81, div. A, title X, § 1051(b), Dec. 31, 2011, 125 Stat. 1582, added item 1599d and struck out former item 1599d “Professional accounting positions: authority to prescribe certification and credential standards”.
- 2008—Pub. L. 110-181, div. A, title XVI, § 1636(b), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 464, added item 1599c and struck out former item 1599c “Appointment in excepted service of certain health care professionals”.
- 2004—Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title XI, § 1104(b), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2074, added item 1587a.
- Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title X, § 1084(g), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2064, amended directory language of Pub. L. 107-314, § 1064(a)(2), effective Dec. 2, 2002, as if included in Pub. L. 107-314 as enacted. See 2002 Amendment note below.
- 2002—Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title XI, § 1104(a)(2), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2661, added item 1599d.
- Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title X, § 1064(a)(2), Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2654, as amended by Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title X, § 1084(g), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2064, added item 1596b.
- 2001—Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title XI, § 1104(b), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1238, added item 1599c.
- 2000—Pub. L. 106-398, § 1 [[div. A], title VII, § 751(c)(2), title XI, §§ 1102(b), 1131(c)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-194, 1654A-311, 1654A-317, added items 1580a, 1582, 1596, and 1596a and struck out former item 1596 “Foreign language proficiency: special pay”.
- 1999—Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title XI, § 1103(b)(2), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 777, added item 1580.
- 1998—Pub. L. 105-339, § 6(c)(1)(B), Oct. 31, 1998, 112 Stat. 3188, struck out item 1599c “Veterans' preference