

chases with purchase cards or convenience checks.

(2) **DISMISSAL.**—Penalties prescribed for employee misuse of purchase cards or convenience checks shall include dismissal of the employee, as appropriate.

(3) **REPORTS ON VIOLATIONS.**—The guidance prescribed under subsection (b) shall direct each head of an executive agency with more than \$10,000,000 in purchase card spending annually, and each Inspector General of such an executive agency, on a semiannual basis, to submit to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget a joint report on violations or other actions covered by paragraph (1) by employees of such executive agency. At a minimum, the report shall set forth the following:

(A) A summary description of confirmed violations involving misuse of a purchase card following completion of a review by the agency or by the Inspector General of the agency.

(B) A summary description of all adverse personnel action, punishment, or other action taken based on each violation.

(d) **RISK ASSESSMENTS AND AUDITS.**—The Inspector General of each executive agency shall—

(1) conduct periodic assessments of the agency purchase card or convenience check programs to identify and analyze risks of illegal, improper, or erroneous purchases and payments in order to develop a plan for using such risk assessments to determine the scope, frequency, and number of periodic audits of purchase card or convenience check transactions;

(2) perform analysis or audits, as necessary, of purchase card transactions designed to identify—

(A) potentially illegal, improper, or erroneous uses of purchase cards;

(B) any patterns of such uses; and

(C) categories of purchases that could be made by means other than purchase cards in order to better aggregate purchases and obtain lower prices (excluding transactions made under card-based strategic sourcing arrangements);

(3) report to the head of the executive agency concerned on the results of such analysis or audits; and

(4) report to the Director of the Office of Management and Budget on the implementation of recommendations made to the head of the executive agency to address findings of any analysis or audit of purchase card and convenience check transactions or programs for compilation and transmission by the Director to Congress and the Comptroller General.

(e) **RELATIONSHIP TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PURCHASE CARD REGULATIONS.**—The requirements of this section shall not apply to the Department of Defense. See section 2784 of title 10 for provisions relating to management of purchase cards in the Department.

(Added Pub. L. 112–194, §2(a)(1), Oct. 5, 2012, 126 Stat. 1445.)

DEADLINE FOR GUIDANCE ON MANAGEMENT OF PURCHASE CARDS

Pub. L. 112–194, §2(c), Oct. 5, 2012, 126 Stat. 1448, provided that: “The Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall prescribe the guidance required by section 1909(b) of title 41, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 5, 2012].”

**CHAPTER 21—RESTRICTIONS ON OBTAINING AND DISCLOSING CERTAIN INFORMATION**

Sec. 2101.	Definitions.
2102.	Prohibitions on disclosing and obtaining procurement information.
2103.	Actions required of procurement officers when contacted regarding non-Federal employment.
2104.	Prohibition on former official’s acceptance of compensation from contractor.
2105.	Penalties and administrative actions.
2106.	Reporting information believed to constitute evidence of offense.
2107.	Savings provisions.

**§ 2101. Definitions**

In this chapter:

(1) **CONTRACTING OFFICER.**—The term “contracting officer” means an individual who, by appointment in accordance with applicable regulations, has the authority to enter into a Federal agency procurement contract on behalf of the Government and to make determinations and findings with respect to the contract.

(2) **CONTRACTOR BID OR PROPOSAL INFORMATION.**—The term “contractor bid or proposal information” means any of the following information submitted to a Federal agency as part of, or in connection with, a bid or proposal to enter into a Federal agency procurement contract, if that information previously has not been made available to the public or disclosed publicly:

(A) Cost or pricing data (as defined in section 2306a(h) of title 10 with respect to procurements subject to that section and section 3501(a) of this title with respect to procurements subject to that section).

(B) Indirect costs and direct labor rates.

(C) Proprietary information about manufacturing processes, operations, or techniques marked by the contractor in accordance with applicable law or regulation.

(D) Information marked by the contractor as “contractor bid or proposal information”, in accordance with applicable law or regulation.

(3) **FEDERAL AGENCY.**—The term “Federal agency” has the meaning given that term in section 102 of title 40.

(4) **FEDERAL AGENCY PROCUREMENT.**—The term “Federal agency procurement” means the acquisition (by using competitive procedures and awarding a contract) of goods or services (including construction) from non-Federal sources by a Federal agency using appropriated funds.

(5) **OFFICIAL.**—The term “official” means—

(A) an officer, as defined in section 2104 of title 5;

(B) an employee, as defined in section 2105 of title 5; and

(C) a member of the uniformed services, as defined in section 2101(3) of title 5.

(6) **PROTEST.**—The term “protest” means a written objection by an interested party to the award or proposed award of a Federal agency procurement contract, pursuant to subchapter V of chapter 35 of title 31.

(7) **SOURCE SELECTION INFORMATION.**—The term “source selection information” means any of the following information prepared for use by a Federal agency to evaluate a bid or proposal to enter into a Federal agency procurement contract, if that information previously has not been made available to the public or disclosed publicly:

(A) Bid prices submitted in response to a Federal agency solicitation for sealed bids, or lists of those bid prices before public bid opening.

(B) Proposed costs or prices submitted in response to a Federal agency solicitation, or lists of those proposed costs or prices.

(C) Source selection plans.

(D) Technical evaluation plans.

(E) Technical evaluations of proposals.

(F) Cost or price evaluations of proposals.

(G) Competitive range determinations that identify proposals that have a reasonable chance of being selected for award of a contract.

(H) Rankings of bids, proposals, or competitors.

(I) Reports and evaluations of source selection panels, boards, or advisory councils.

(J) Other information marked as “source selection information” based on a case-by-case determination by the head of the agency, the head’s designee, or the contracting officer that its disclosure would jeopardize the integrity or successful completion of the Federal agency procurement to which the information relates.

(Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3727.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
2101(1) .....	41:423(f)(5).	Pub. L. 93-400, § 27(f), as added Pub. L. 100-679, § 6(a), Nov. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4063; Pub. L. 101-189, title VIII, § 814(a)-(d)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 101-510, title XIV, § 1484(l)(6), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1720; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 705(i), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 103-355, title VIII, § 8301(e), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3397; Pub. L. 104-106, title XLIII, § 4304(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 662.
2101(2) .....	41:423(f)(1).	
2101(3) .....	41:423(f)(3).	
2101(4) .....	41:423(f)(4).	
2101(5) .....	41:423(f)(7).	
2101(6) .....	41:423(f)(6).	
2101(7) .....	41:423(f)(2).	

**§ 2102. Prohibitions on disclosing and obtaining procurement information**

(a) **PROHIBITION ON DISCLOSING PROCUREMENT INFORMATION.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided by law, a person described in paragraph (3) shall not

knowingly disclose contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information before the award of a Federal agency procurement contract to which the information relates.

(2) **EMPLOYEE OF PRIVATE SECTOR ORGANIZATION.**—In addition to the restriction in paragraph (1), an employee of a private sector organization assigned to an agency under chapter 37 of title 5 shall not knowingly disclose contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information during the 3-year period after the employee’s assignment ends, except as provided by law.

(3) **APPLICATION.**—Paragraph (1) applies to a person that—

(A)(i) is a present or former official of the Federal Government; or

(ii) is acting or has acted for or on behalf of, or who is advising or has advised the Federal Government with respect to, a Federal agency procurement; and

(B) by virtue of that office, employment, or relationship has or had access to contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information.

(b) **PROHIBITION ON OBTAINING PROCUREMENT INFORMATION.**—Except as provided by law, a person shall not knowingly obtain contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information before the award of a Federal agency procurement contract to which the information relates.

(Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3728.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
2102(a) .....	41:423(a).	Pub. L. 93-400, § 27(a), (b), as added Pub. L. 100-679, § 6(a), Nov. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4063; Pub. L. 101-189, title VIII, § 814(a)-(d)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 101-510, title XIV, § 1484(l)(6), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1720; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 705(i), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 103-355, title VIII, § 8301(e), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3397; Pub. L. 104-106, title XLIII, § 4304(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 659; Pub. L. 107-347, title II, § 209(d)(4), Dec. 17, 2002, 116 Stat. 2930.
2102(b) .....	41:423(b).	

**§ 2103. Actions required of procurement officers when contacted regarding non-Federal employment**

(a) **ACTIONS REQUIRED.**—An agency official participating personally and substantially in a Federal agency procurement for a contract in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold who contacts or is contacted by a person that is a bidder or offeror in that Federal agency procurement regarding possible non-Federal employment for that official shall—

(1) promptly report the contact in writing to the official’s supervisor and to the designated agency ethics official (or designee) of the agency in which the official is employed; and

(2)(A) reject the possibility of non-Federal employment; or

(B) disqualify himself or herself from further personal and substantial participation in that Federal agency procurement until the agency authorizes the official to resume participation in the procurement, in accordance with the requirements of section 208 of title 18 and applicable agency regulations on the grounds that—

- (i) the person is no longer a bidder or offeror in that Federal agency procurement; or
- (ii) all discussions with the bidder or offeror regarding possible non-Federal employment have terminated without an agreement or arrangement for employment.

(b) **RETENTION OF REPORTS.**—The agency shall retain each report required by this section for not less than 2 years following the submission of the report. The reports shall be made available to the public on request, except that any part of a report that is exempt from the disclosure requirements of section 552 of title 5 under subsection (b)(1) of that section may be withheld from disclosure to the public.

(c) **PERSONS SUBJECT TO PENALTIES.**—The following are subject to the penalties and administrative actions set forth in section 2105 of this title:

- (1) An official who knowingly fails to comply with the requirements of this section.
- (2) A bidder or offeror that engages in employment discussions with an official who is subject to the restrictions of this section, knowing that the official has not complied with paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (a).

(Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3728.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
2103(a) .....	41:423(c)(1).	Pub. L. 93-400, § 27(c), as added Pub. L. 100-679, § 6(a), Nov. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4063; Pub. L. 101-189, title VIII, § 814(a)-(d)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 101-510, title XIV, § 1484(d)(6), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1720; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 705(d), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 103-355, title VIII, § 8301(e), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3397; Pub. L. 104-106, title XLIII, § 4304(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 660.
2103(b) .....	41:423(c)(2).	
2103(c) .....	41:423(c)(3), (4).	

**§ 2104. Prohibition on former official's acceptance of compensation from contractor**

(a) **PROHIBITION.**—A former official of a Federal agency may not accept compensation from a contractor as an employee, officer, director, or consultant of the contractor within one year after the official—

- (1) served, when the contractor was selected or awarded a contract, as the procuring contracting officer, the source selection authority, a member of the source selection evaluation board, or the chief of a financial or technical evaluation team in a procurement in which that contractor was selected for award of a contract in excess of \$10,000,000;
- (2) served as the program manager, deputy program manager, or administrative contract-

ing officer for a contract in excess of \$10,000,000 awarded to that contractor; or

(3) personally made for the Federal agency a decision to—

(A) award a contract, subcontract, modification of a contract or subcontract, or a task order or delivery order in excess of \$10,000,000 to that contractor;

(B) establish overhead or other rates applicable to one or more contracts for that contractor that are valued in excess of \$10,000,000;

(C) approve issuance of one or more contract payments in excess of \$10,000,000 to that contractor; or

(D) pay or settle a claim in excess of \$10,000,000 with that contractor.

(b) **WHEN COMPENSATION MAY BE ACCEPTED.**—Subsection (a) does not prohibit a former official of a Federal agency from accepting compensation from a division or affiliate of a contractor that does not produce the same or similar products or services as the entity of the contractor that is responsible for the contract referred to in paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a).

(c) **IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS.**—Regulations implementing this section shall include procedures for an official or former official of a Federal agency to request advice from the appropriate designated agency ethics official regarding whether the official or former official is or would be precluded by this section from accepting compensation from a particular contractor.

(d) **PERSONS SUBJECT TO PENALTIES.**—The following are subject to the penalties and administrative actions set forth in section 2105 of this title:

- (1) A former official who knowingly accepts compensation in violation of this section.
- (2) A contractor that provides compensation to a former official knowing that the official accepts the compensation in violation of this section.

(Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3729.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
2104(a) .....	41:423(d)(1).	Pub. L. 93-400, § 27(d), as added Pub. L. 100-679, § 6(a), Nov. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4063; Pub. L. 101-189, title VIII, § 814(a)-(d)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 101-510, title XIV, § 1484(d)(6), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1720; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 705(i), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 103-355, title VIII, § 8301(e), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3397; Pub. L. 104-106, title XLIII, § 4304(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 660.
2104(b) .....	41:423(d)(2).	
2104(c) .....	41:423(d)(5).	
2104(d) .....	41:423(d)(3), (4).	

**§ 2105. Penalties and administrative actions**

(a) **CRIMINAL PENALTIES.**—A person that violates section 2102 of this title to exchange information covered by section 2102 of this title for anything of value or to obtain or give a person a competitive advantage in the award of a Federal agency procurement contract shall be fined

under title 18, imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both.

(b) CIVIL PENALTIES.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court of the United States against a person that engages in conduct that violates section 2102, 2103, or 2104 of this title. On proof of that conduct by a preponderance of the evidence—

(1) an individual is liable to the Federal Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$50,000 for each violation plus twice the amount of compensation that the individual received or offered for the prohibited conduct; and

(2) an organization is liable to the Federal Government for a civil penalty of not more than \$500,000 for each violation plus twice the amount of compensation that the organization received or offered for the prohibited conduct.

(c) ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIONS.—

(1) TYPES OF ACTION THAT FEDERAL AGENCY MAY TAKE.—A Federal agency that receives information that a contractor or a person has violated section 2102, 2103, or 2104 of this title shall consider taking one or more of the following actions, as appropriate:

(A) Canceling the Federal agency procurement, if a contract has not yet been awarded.

(B) Rescinding a contract with respect to which—

(i) the contractor or someone acting for the contractor has been convicted for an offense punishable under subsection (a); or

(ii) the head of the agency that awarded the contract has determined, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that the contractor or a person acting for the contractor has engaged in conduct constituting the offense.

(C) Initiating a suspension or debarment proceeding for the protection of the Federal Government in accordance with procedures in the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(D) Initiating an adverse personnel action, pursuant to the procedures in chapter 75 of title 5 or other applicable law or regulation.

(2) AMOUNT GOVERNMENT ENTITLED TO RECOVER.—When a Federal agency rescinds a contract pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), the Federal Government is entitled to recover, in addition to any penalty prescribed by law, the amount expended under the contract.

(3) PRESENT RESPONSIBILITY AFFECTED BY CONDUCT.—For purposes of a suspension or debarment proceeding initiated pursuant to paragraph (1)(C), engaging in conduct constituting an offense under section 2102, 2103, or 2104 of this title affects the present responsibility of a Federal Government contractor or subcontractor.

(Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3730.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
2105(a) .....	41:423(e)(1).	Pub. L. 93-400, § 27(e), as added Pub. L. 100-679, § 6(a), Nov. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4063; Pub. L. 101-189, title VIII, § 814(a)-(d)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 101-510, title XIV, § 1484(i)(6), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1720; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 705(i), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 103-355, title VIII, § 8301(e), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3397; Pub. L. 104-106, title XLIII, § 4304(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 661.
2105(b) .....	41:423(e)(2).	
2105(c) .....	41:423(e)(3).	

In subsection (a), the word “violates” is substituted for “engages in conduct constituting a violation of” to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (b), the words “liable to the Federal Government for” are substituted for “subject to” for consistency in the revised title and with other titles of the United States Code.

In subsection (c)(1), the words “has violated” are substituted for “has engaged in conduct constituting a violation of” to eliminate unnecessary words.

§ 2106. Reporting information believed to constitute evidence of offense

A person may not file a protest against the award or proposed award of a Federal agency procurement contract alleging a violation of section 2102, 2103, or 2104 of this title, and the Comptroller General may not consider that allegation in deciding a protest, unless the person, no later than 14 days after the person first discovered the possible violation, reported to the Federal agency responsible for the procurement the information that the person believed constitutes evidence of the offense.

(Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3731.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
2106 .....	41:423(g).	Pub. L. 93-400, § 27(g), as added Pub. L. 100-679, § 6(a), Nov. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4063; Pub. L. 101-189, title VIII, § 814(a)-(d)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 101-510, title XIV, § 1484(i)(6), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1720; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 705(i), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 103-355, title VIII, § 8301(e), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3397; Pub. L. 104-106, title XLIII, § 4304(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 663.

§ 2107. Savings provisions

This chapter does not—

(1) restrict the disclosure of information to, or its receipt by, a person or class of persons authorized, in accordance with applicable agency regulations or procedures, to receive that information;

(2) restrict a contractor from disclosing its own bid or proposal information or the recipient from receiving that information;

(3) restrict the disclosure or receipt of information relating to a Federal agency procurement after it has been canceled by the Federal

agency before contract award unless the Federal agency plans to resume the procurement;

(4) prohibit individual meetings between a Federal agency official and an offeror or potential offeror for, or a recipient of, a contract or subcontract under a Federal agency procurement, provided that unauthorized disclosure or receipt of contractor bid or proposal information or source selection information does not occur;

(5) authorize the withholding of information from, nor restrict its receipt by, Congress, a committee or subcommittee of Congress, the Comptroller General, a Federal agency, or an inspector general of a Federal agency;

(6) authorize the withholding of information from, nor restrict its receipt by, the Comptroller General in the course of a protest against the award or proposed award of a Federal agency procurement contract; or

(7) limit the applicability of a requirement, sanction, contract penalty, or remedy established under another law or regulation.

(Pub. L. 111-350, § 3, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3731.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
2107 .....	41:423(h).	Pub. L. 93-400, § 27(h), as added Pub. L. 100-679, § 6(a), Nov. 17, 1988, 102 Stat. 4063; Pub. L. 101-169, title VIII, § 814(a)-(d)(1), Nov. 29, 1989, 103 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 101-510, title XIV, § 1484(l)(6), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1720; Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 705(d), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 121; Pub. L. 103-355, title VIII, § 8301(e), Oct. 13, 1994, 108 Stat. 3397; Pub. L. 104-106, title XLIII, § 4304(a), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 663.

#### CHAPTER 23—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec.	
2301.	Use of electronic commerce in Federal procurement.
2302.	Rights in technical data.
2303.	Ethics safeguards related to contractor conflicts of interest.
2304.	Conflict of interest standards for consultants.
2305.	Authority of Director of Office of Management and Budget not affected.
2306.	Openness of meetings.
2307.	Comptroller General's access to information.
2308.	Modular contracting for information technology.
2309.	Protection of constitutional rights of contractors.
2310.	Performance-based contracts or task orders for services to be treated as contracts for the procurement of commercial items.
2311.	Enhanced transparency on interagency contracting and other transactions.
2312.	Contingency Contracting Corps.
2313.	Database for Federal agency contract and grant officers and suspension and debarment officials.

#### § 2301. Use of electronic commerce in Federal procurement

(a) DEFINITION.—For the purposes of this section, the term “electronic commerce” means electronic techniques for accomplishing business transactions, including electronic mail or

messaging, World Wide Web technology, electronic bulletin boards, purchase cards, electronic funds transfers, and electronic data interchange.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT, MAINTENANCE, AND USE OF ELECTRONIC COMMERCE PROCEDURES AND PROCESSES.—The head of each executive agency, after consulting with the Administrator, shall establish, maintain, and use, to the maximum extent that is practicable and cost-effective, procedures and processes that employ electronic commerce in the conduct and administration of the procurement system of the agency.

(c) APPLICABLE STANDARDS.—In conducting electronic commerce, the head of an executive agency shall apply nationally and internationally recognized standards that broaden interoperability and ease the electronic interchange of information.

(d) REQUIREMENTS OF SYSTEMS, TECHNOLOGIES, PROCEDURES, AND PROCESSES.—The head of each executive agency shall ensure that systems, technologies, procedures, and processes established pursuant to this section—

(1) are implemented with uniformity throughout the agency, to the extent practicable;

(2) are implemented only after granting due consideration to the use or partial use, as appropriate, of existing electronic commerce and electronic data interchange systems and infrastructures such as the Federal acquisition computer network architecture known as FACNET;

(3) facilitate access to Federal Government procurement opportunities, including opportunities for small business concerns, socially and economically disadvantaged small business concerns, and business concerns owned predominantly by women; and

(4) ensure that any notice of agency requirements or agency solicitation for contract opportunities is provided in a form that allows convenient and universal user access through a single, Government-wide point of entry.

(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—In carrying out the requirements of this section, the Administrator shall—

(1) issue policies to promote, to the maximum extent practicable, uniform implementation of this section by executive agencies, with due regard for differences in program requirements among agencies that may require departures from uniform procedures and processes in appropriate cases, when warranted because of the agency mission;

(2) ensure that the head of each executive agency complies with the requirements of subsection (d); and

(3) consult with the heads of appropriate Federal agencies with applicable technical and functional expertise, including the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the General Services Administration, and the Department of Defense.

(f) INAPPLICABILITY TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.—In this section, the term “executive agency” does not include the Department of Defense.