

“(A) shall not lie or be maintained in any court; and

“(B) shall be promptly dismissed by the applicable court.

“(2) VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES.—Nothing in this section subjects any covered entity to liability for not engaging in the voluntary activities authorized under subsection (b).

“(g) NO NEW REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Nothing in this section authorizes the Secretary or the head of any other department or agency of the Federal Government to issue new regulations.

“(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

“(1) PILOT PROGRAM.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 to carry out subsection (b).

“(2) WORKING GROUP AND REPORT.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$1,500,000 to carry out subsections (c) and (d).

“(3) AVAILABILITY.—Amounts made available under paragraphs (1) and (2) shall remain available until expended.”

§ 190. Transfer of Plum Island Animal Disease Center, Department of Agriculture

(a) In general

In accordance with subchapter XII, the Secretary of Agriculture shall transfer to the Secretary of Homeland Security the Plum Island Animal Disease Center of the Department of Agriculture, including the assets and liabilities of the Center.

(b) Continued Department of Agriculture access

On completion of the transfer of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center under subsection (a), the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Agriculture shall enter into an agreement to ensure that the Department of Agriculture is able to carry out research, diagnostic, and other activities of the Department of Agriculture at the Center.

(c) Direction of activities

The Secretary of Agriculture shall continue to direct the research, diagnostic, and other activities of the Department of Agriculture at the Center described in subsection (b).

(d) Notification

(1) In general

At least 180 days before any change in the biosafety level at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, the President shall notify Congress of the change and describe the reasons for the change.

(2) Limitation

No change described in paragraph (1) may be made earlier than 180 days after the completion of the transition period (as defined in section 541 of this title).

(Pub. L. 107-296, title III, § 310, Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2174.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

TRANSFER OF NATIONAL BIO AND AGRO-DEFENSE FACILITY

Pub. L. 117-328, div. A, title VII, § 775, Dec. 29, 2022, 136 Stat. 4509, provided that: “In this or any subsequent fiscal year, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall transfer to the Secretary of Agriculture the operation of and all property required to operate the National Bio- and Agro-Defense Facility in Manhattan, Kansas:

Provided, That, such transfer of function shall include the transfer of up to 40 full time equivalent positions, to be completed within 120 days of the effective date of the transfer of function, as jointly determined by the Secretaries.”

Similar provisions were contained in the following prior acts:

Pub. L. 117-103, div. A, title VII, § 730, Mar. 15, 2022, 136 Stat. 92.

Pub. L. 116-94, div. B, title VII, § 766, Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 2655.

DISPOSITION OF PLUM ISLAND PROPERTY AND TRANSPORTATION ASSETS

Pub. L. 116-260, div. FF, title V, § 501(c), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 3136, provided that: “The Administrator of General Services shall ensure that—

“(1) Federal property commonly known as Plum Island, New York, including the Orient point facility, all real and personal property and transportation assets that support Plum Island operations and access to Plum Island, be disposed of as a single consolidated asset; and

“(2) such disposal is subject to conditions as may be necessary to protect Government interests and meet program requirements.”

Pub. L. 112-74, div. D, title V, § 538, Dec. 23, 2011, 125 Stat. 976, which related to disposition of property and transportation assets if the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility were relocated from Plum Island, New York, was repealed by Pub. L. 116-260, div. FF, title V, § 501(b), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 3136.

§ 191. Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee

(a) Establishment

There is established within the Department a Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee (in this section referred to as the “Advisory Committee”). The Advisory Committee shall make recommendations with respect to the activities of the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, including identifying research areas of potential importance to the security of the Nation.

(b) Membership

(1) Appointment

The Advisory Committee shall consist of 20 members appointed by the Under Secretary for Science and Technology, which shall include emergency first-responders or representatives of organizations or associations of emergency first-responders. The Advisory Committee shall also include representatives of citizen groups, including economically disadvantaged communities. The individuals appointed as members of the Advisory Committee—

(A) shall be eminent in fields such as emergency response, research, engineering, new product development, business, and management consulting;

(B) shall be selected solely on the basis of established records of distinguished service;

(C) shall not be employees of the Federal Government; and

(D) shall be so selected as to provide representation of a cross-section of the research, development, demonstration, and deployment activities supported by the Under Secretary for Science and Technology.

(2) National Research Council

The Under Secretary for Science and Technology may enter into an arrangement for the

National Research Council to select members of the Advisory Committee, but only if the panel used by the National Research Council reflects the representation described in paragraph (1).

(c) Terms of office

(1) In general

Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the term of office of each member of the Advisory Committee shall be 3 years.

(2) Original appointments

The original members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed to three classes. One class of six shall have a term of 1 year, one class of seven a term of 2 years, and one class of seven a term of 3 years.

(3) Vacancies

A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration of the term for which the member's predecessor was appointed shall be appointed for the remainder of such term.

(d) Eligibility

A person who has completed two consecutive full terms of service on the Advisory Committee shall thereafter be ineligible for appointment during the 1-year period following the expiration of the second such term.

(e) Meetings

The Advisory Committee shall meet at least quarterly at the call of the Chair or whenever one-third of the members so request in writing. Each member shall be given appropriate notice of the call of each meeting, whenever possible not less than 15 days before the meeting.

(f) Quorum

A majority of the members of the Advisory Committee not having a conflict of interest in the matter being considered by the Advisory Committee shall constitute a quorum.

(g) Conflict of interest rules

The Advisory Committee shall establish rules for determining when 1 of its members has a conflict of interest in a matter being considered by the Advisory Committee.

(h) Reports

(1) Annual report

The Advisory Committee shall render an annual report to the Under Secretary for Science and Technology for transmittal to Congress on or before January 31 of each year. Such report shall describe the activities and recommendations of the Advisory Committee during the previous year.

(2) Additional reports

The Advisory Committee may render to the Under Secretary for transmittal to Congress such additional reports on specific policy matters as it considers appropriate.

(i) Exemption from chapter 10 of title 5

Section 1013 of title 5 shall not apply to the Advisory Committee.

(j) Termination

The Department of Homeland Security Science and Technology Advisory Committee shall terminate on December 31, 2008.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title III, §311, Nov. 25, 2002, 116 Stat. 2174; Pub. L. 108-334, title V, §520, Oct. 18, 2004, 118 Stat. 1318; Pub. L. 109-347, title III, §302(a), Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1920; Pub. L. 117-286, §4(a)(14), Dec. 27, 2022, 136 Stat. 4306.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 117-286 substituted “Exemption from chapter 10 of title 5” for “Federal Advisory Committee Act exemption” in heading and “Section 1013 of title 5” for “Section 14 of the Federal Advisory Committee Act” in text.

2006—Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 109-347 substituted “on December 31, 2008” for “3 years after the effective date of this chapter”.

2004—Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 108-334 amended heading and text of par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The original members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed to three classes of three members each. One class shall have a term of 1 year, 1 a term of 2 years, and the other a term of 3 years.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2006 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 109-347, title III, §302(b), Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1921, provided that: “The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall be effective as if enacted on the date of the enactment of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 101 et seq.) [Nov. 25, 2002].”

§ 192. Homeland Security Institute

(a) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a federally funded research and development center to be known as the “Homeland Security Institute” (in this section referred to as the “Institute”).

(b) Administration

The Institute shall be administered as a separate entity by the Secretary.

(c) Duties

The duties of the Institute shall be determined by the Secretary, and may include the following:

(1) Systems analysis, risk analysis, and simulation and modeling to determine the vulnerabilities of the Nation's critical infrastructures and the effectiveness of the systems deployed to reduce those vulnerabilities.

(2) Economic and policy analysis to assess the distributed costs and benefits of alternative approaches to enhancing security.

(3) Evaluation of the effectiveness of measures deployed to enhance the security of institutions, facilities, and infrastructure that may be terrorist targets.

(4) Identification of instances when common standards and protocols could improve the interoperability and effective utilization of tools developed for field operators and first responders.

(5) Assistance for Federal agencies and departments in establishing testbeds to evaluate the effectiveness of technologies under development and to assess the appropriateness of such technologies for deployment.

(6) Design of metrics and use of those metrics to evaluate the effectiveness of home-