

graph (A) consistent with the policies, guidelines, procedures, instructions, or standards established under section 485 of this title and in consultation with the Director of National Intelligence, the Under Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, and other offices or agencies of the Federal Government, as appropriate.

**(e) Responsibilities of the NBIC member agencies**

**(1)<sup>1</sup> In general**

Each Member Agency shall—

(A) use its best efforts to integrate biosurveillance information into the NBIC, with the goal of promoting information sharing between Federal, State, local, and tribal governments to detect biological events of national concern;

(B) provide timely information to assist the NBIC in maintaining biological situational awareness for accurate detection and response purposes;

(C) enable the NBIC to receive and use biosurveillance information from member agencies to carry out its requirements under subsection (c);

(D) connect the biosurveillance data systems of that Member Agency to the NBIC data system under mutually agreed protocols that are consistent with subsection (c)(5);

(E) participate in the formation of strategy and policy for the operation of the NBIC and its information sharing;

(F) provide personnel to the NBIC under an interagency personnel agreement and consider the qualifications of such personnel necessary to provide human, animal, and environmental data analysis and interpretation support to the NBIC; and

(G) retain responsibility for the surveillance and intelligence systems of that department or agency, if applicable.

**(f) Administrative authorities**

**(1) Hiring of experts**

The Directing Officer of the NBIC shall hire individuals with the necessary expertise to develop and operate the NBIC.

**(2) Detail of personnel**

Upon the request of the Directing Officer of the NBIC, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Department to assist the NBIC in carrying out this section.

**(g) NBIC interagency working group**

The Directing Officer of the NBIC shall—

(1) establish an interagency working group to facilitate interagency cooperation and to advise the Directing Officer of the NBIC regarding recommendations to enhance the biosurveillance capabilities of the Department; and

(2) invite Member Agencies to serve on that working group.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. No par. (2) has been enacted.

**(h) Relationship to other departments and agencies**

The authority of the Directing Officer of the NBIC under this section shall not affect any authority or responsibility of any other department or agency of the Federal Government with respect to biosurveillance activities under any program administered by that department or agency.

**(i) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

**(j) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) The terms “biological agent” and “toxin” have the meanings given those terms in section 178 of title 18.

(2) The term “biological event of national concern” means—

(A) an act of terrorism involving a biological agent or toxin; or

(B) a naturally occurring outbreak of an infectious disease that may result in a national epidemic.

(3) The term “homeland security information” has the meaning given that term in section 482 of this title.

(4) The term “Member Agency” means any Federal department or agency that, at the discretion of the head of that department or agency, has entered a memorandum of understanding regarding participation in the NBIC.

(5) The term “Privacy Officer” means the Privacy Officer appointed under section 142 of this title.

(Pub. L. 107–296, title III, § 316, as added Pub. L. 110–53, title XI, § 1101(a), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 375; amended Pub. L. 115–387, § 2(f)(2), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5168.)

**Editorial Notes**

**AMENDMENTS**

2018—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115–387 substituted “Secretary, acting through the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, shall” for “Secretary shall”.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

**DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

Pub. L. 110–53, title XI, § 1101(c), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 378, provided that: “The National Biosurveillance Integration Center under section 316 of the Homeland Security Act [of 2002, 6 U.S.C. 195b], as added by subsection (a), shall be fully operational by not later than September 30, 2008.”

**§ 195c. Promoting antiterrorism through international cooperation program**

**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Director**

The term “Director” means the Director selected under subsection (b)(2).

**(2) International cooperative activity**

The term “international cooperative activity” includes—

(A) coordinated research projects, joint research projects, or joint ventures;

(B) joint studies or technical demonstrations;

(C) coordinated field exercises, scientific seminars, conferences, symposia, and workshops;

(D) training of scientists and engineers;

(E) visits and exchanges of scientists, engineers, or other appropriate personnel;

(F) exchanges or sharing of scientific and technological information; and

(G) joint use of laboratory facilities and equipment.

**(b) Science and Technology Homeland Security International Cooperative Programs Office**

**(1) Establishment**

The Under Secretary shall establish the Science and Technology Homeland Security International Cooperative Programs Office.

**(2) Director**

The Office shall be headed by a Director, who—

(A) shall be selected, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, by and shall report to the Under Secretary; and

(B) may be an officer of the Department serving in another position.

**(3) Responsibilities**

**(A) Development of mechanisms**

The Director shall be responsible for developing, in coordination with the Department of State and, as appropriate, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, and other Federal agencies, understandings and agreements to allow and to support international cooperative activity in support of homeland security.

**(B) Priorities**

The Director shall be responsible for developing, in coordination with the Office of International Affairs and other Federal agencies, strategic priorities for international cooperative activity for the Department in support of homeland security.

**(C) Activities**

The Director shall facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of international cooperative activity to address the strategic priorities developed under subparagraph (B) through mechanisms the Under Secretary considers appropriate, including grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts to or with foreign public or private entities, governmental organizations, businesses (including small businesses and socially and economically disadvantaged small businesses (as those terms are defined in sections 632 and 637 of title 15, respectively)), federally funded research and development centers, and universities.

**(D) Identification of partners**

The Director shall facilitate the matching of United States entities engaged in homeland security research with non-United

States entities engaged in homeland security research so that they may partner in homeland security research activities.

**(4) Coordination**

The Director shall ensure that the activities under this subsection are coordinated with the Office of International Affairs and the Department of State and, as appropriate, the Department of Defense, the Department of Energy, and other relevant Federal agencies or interagency bodies. The Director may enter into joint activities with other Federal agencies.

**(c) Matching funding**

**(1) In general**

**(A) Equitability**

The Director shall ensure that funding and resources expended in international cooperative activity will be equitably matched by the foreign partner government or other entity through direct funding, funding of complementary activities, or the provision of staff, facilities, material, or equipment.

**(B) Grant matching and repayment**

**(i) In general**

The Secretary may require a recipient of a grant under this section—

(I) to make a matching contribution of not more than 50 percent of the total cost of the proposed project for which the grant is awarded; and

(II) to repay to the Secretary the amount of the grant (or a portion thereof), interest on such amount at an appropriate rate, and such charges for administration of the grant as the Secretary determines appropriate.

**(ii) Maximum amount**

The Secretary may not require that repayment under clause (i)(II) be more than 150 percent of the amount of the grant, adjusted for inflation on the basis of the Consumer Price Index.

**(2) Foreign partners**

Partners may include Israel, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, Singapore, and other allies in the global war on terrorism as determined to be appropriate by the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of State.

**(3) Loans of equipment**

The Director may make or accept loans of equipment for research and development and comparative testing purposes.

**(d) Foreign reimbursements**

If the Science and Technology Homeland Security International Cooperative Programs Office participates in an international cooperative activity with a foreign partner on a cost-sharing basis, any reimbursements or contributions received from that foreign partner to meet its share of the project may be credited to appropriate current appropriations accounts of the Directorate of Science and Technology.

**(e) Report to Congress on international cooperative activities**

Not later than one year after August 3, 2007, and every 5 years thereafter, the Under Sec-

retary, acting through the Director, shall submit to Congress a report containing—

(1) a brief description of each grant, cooperative agreement, or contract made or entered into under subsection (b)(3)(C), including the participants, goals, and amount and sources of funding;

(2) a list of international cooperative activities underway, including the participants, goals, expected duration, and amount and sources of funding, including resources provided to support the activities in lieu of direct funding; and<sup>1</sup>

(3) for international cooperative activities identified in the previous reporting period, a status update on the progress of such activities, including whether goals were realized, explaining any lessons learned, and evaluating overall success; and

(4) a discussion of obstacles encountered in the course of forming, executing, or implementing agreements for international cooperative activities, including administrative, legal, or diplomatic challenges or resource constraints.

#### (f) Animal and zoonotic diseases

As part of the international cooperative activities authorized in this section, the Under Secretary, in coordination with the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, the Department of State, and appropriate officials of the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Defense, and the Department of Health and Human Services, may enter into cooperative activities with foreign countries, including African nations, to strengthen American preparedness against foreign animal and zoonotic diseases overseas that could harm the Nation's agricultural and public health sectors if they were to reach the United States.

#### (g) Cybersecurity

As part of the international cooperative activities authorized in this section, the Under Secretary, in coordination with the Department of State and appropriate Federal officials, may enter into cooperative research activities with Israel to strengthen preparedness against cyber threats and enhance capabilities in cybersecurity.

#### (h) Construction; authorities of the Secretary of State

Nothing in this section shall be construed to alter or affect the following provisions of law:

(1) Title V of the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1979 (22 U.S.C. 2656a et seq.).

(2) Section 112b(c) of title 1.

(3) Section 2651a(e)(2) of title 22.

(4) Sections 2752 and 2767 of title 22.

(5) Section 2382(c) of title 22.

#### (i) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section such sums as are necessary.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title III, §317, as added Pub. L. 110-53, title XIX, §1901(b)(1), Aug. 3, 2007, 121

Stat. 505; amended Pub. L. 114-304, §2(a), Dec. 16, 2016, 130 Stat. 1519; Pub. L. 115-387, §2(f)(3), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5168; Pub. L. 117-263, div. E, title LIX, §5947(a)(3), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3481.)

#### AMENDMENT OF SUBSECTION (h)(2)

*Pub. L. 117-263, div. E, title LIX, §5947(a)(3), (c), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 3481, 3482, provided that, effective 270 days after Dec. 23, 2022, subsection (h)(2) of this section is amended by striking “Section 112b(c)” and inserting “Section 112b(g)”. See 2022 Amendment note below.*

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Year 1979, referred to in subsec. (h)(1), is Pub. L. 95-426, Oct. 7, 1978, 92 Stat. 963. Title V of the Act is classified generally to sections 2656a to 2656d of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

##### AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (h)(2). Pub. L. 117-263 substituted “Section 112b(g)” for “Section 112b(c)”.

2018—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 115-387 substituted “the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office,” for “the Chief Medical Officer.”

2016—Subsec. (e)(3), (4). Pub. L. 114-304, §2(a)(1), added pars. (3) and (4).

Subsecs. (g) to (i). Pub. L. 114-304, §2(a)(2), (3), added subsec. (g) and redesignated former subsecs. (g) and (h) as (h) and (i), respectively.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2022 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 117-263 effective 270 days after Dec. 23, 2022, see section 5947(c) of Pub. L. 117-263, set out as a note under section 112a of Title 1, General Provisions.

##### FINDINGS

Pub. L. 110-53, title XIX, §1901(a), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 505, provided that: “Congress finds the following:

“(1) The development and implementation of technology is critical to combating terrorism and other high consequence events and implementing a comprehensive homeland security strategy.

“(2) The United States and its allies in the global war on terrorism share a common interest in facilitating research, development, testing, and evaluation of equipment, capabilities, technologies, and services that will aid in detecting, preventing, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against acts of terrorism.

“(3) Certain United States allies in the global war on terrorism, including Israel, the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, and Singapore have extensive experience with, and technological expertise in, homeland security.

“(4) The United States and certain of its allies in the global war on terrorism have a history of successful collaboration in developing mutually beneficial equipment, capabilities, technologies, and services in the areas of defense, agriculture, and telecommunications.

“(5) The United States and its allies in the global war on terrorism will mutually benefit from the sharing of technological expertise to combat domestic and international terrorism.

“(6) The establishment of an office to facilitate and support cooperative endeavors between and among government agencies, for-profit business entities, academic institutions, and nonprofit entities of the

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The word “and” probably should not appear.

United States and its allies will safeguard lives and property worldwide against acts of terrorism and other high consequence events.”

#### TRANSPARENCY OF FUNDS

Pub. L. 110-53, title XIX, §1902, Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 508, provided that: “For each Federal award (as that term is defined in section 2 of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 [Pub. L. 109-282] (31 U.S.C. 6101 note)) under this title [enacting this section and provisions set out as notes under this section] or an amendment made by this title, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall ensure full and timely compliance with the requirements of the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).”

### § 195d. Social media working group

#### (a) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish within the Department a social media working group (in this section referred to as the “Group”).

#### (b) Purpose

In order to enhance the dissemination of information through social media technologies between the Department and appropriate stakeholders and to improve use of social media technologies in support of preparedness, response, and recovery, the Group shall identify, and provide guidance and best practices to the emergency preparedness and response community on, the use of social media technologies before, during, and after a natural disaster or an act of terrorism or other man-made disaster.

#### (c) Membership

##### (1) In general

Membership of the Group shall be composed of a cross section of subject matter experts from Federal, State, local, tribal, territorial, and nongovernmental organization practitioners, including representatives from the following entities:

- (A) The Office of Public Affairs of the Department.
- (B) The Office of the Chief Information Officer of the Department.
- (C) The Privacy Office of the Department.
- (D) The Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (E) The Office of Disability Integration and Coordination of the Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- (F) The American Red Cross.
- (G) The Forest Service.
- (H) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.
- (I) The United States Geological Survey.
- (J) The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

##### (2) Chairperson; co-chairperson

###### (A) Chairperson

The Secretary, or a designee of the Secretary, shall serve as the chairperson of the Group.

###### (B) Co-chairperson

The chairperson shall designate, on a rotating basis, a representative from a State or local government who is a member of the Group to serve as the co-chairperson of the Group.

### (3) Additional members

The chairperson shall appoint, on a rotating basis, qualified individuals to the Group. The total number of such additional members shall—

- (A) be equal to or greater than the total number of regular members under paragraph (1); and
- (B) include—
  - (i) not fewer than 3 representatives from the private sector; and
  - (ii) representatives from—
    - (I) State, local, tribal, and territorial entities, including from—
      - (aa) law enforcement;
      - (bb) fire services;
      - (cc) emergency management; and
      - (dd) public health entities;
    - (II) universities and academia; and
    - (III) nonprofit disaster relief organizations.

### (4) Term limits

The chairperson shall establish term limits for individuals appointed to the Group under paragraph (3).

### (d) Consultation with non-members

To the extent practicable, the Group shall work with entities in the public and private sectors to carry out subsection (b).

### (e) Meetings

#### (1) Initial meeting

Not later than 90 days after November 5, 2015, the Group shall hold its initial meeting.

#### (2) Subsequent meetings

After the initial meeting under paragraph (1), the Group shall meet—

- (A) at the call of the chairperson; and
- (B) not less frequently than twice each year.

#### (3) Virtual meetings

Each meeting of the Group may be held virtually.

### (f) Reports

During each year in which the Group meets, the Group shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes the following:

- (1) A review and analysis of current and emerging social media technologies being used to support preparedness and response activities related to natural disasters and acts of terrorism and other man-made disasters.
- (2) A review of best practices and lessons learned on the use of social media technologies during the response to natural disasters and acts of terrorism and other man-made disasters that occurred during the period covered by the report at issue.
- (3) Recommendations to improve the Department’s use of social media technologies for emergency management purposes.
- (4) Recommendations to improve public awareness of the type of information disseminated through social media technologies, and how to access such information, during a natural disaster or an act of terrorism or other man-made disaster.