

(14) perform other duties as assigned by the Secretary.

(b) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Alaska Native-serving institution

The term “Alaska Native-serving institution” has the meaning given the term in section 1059d of title 20.

(2) Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution

The term “Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-serving institution” has the meaning given the term in section 1059g of title 20.

(3) Hawaiian native-serving institution

The term “Hawaiian native-serving institution”¹ has the meaning given the term in section 1059d of title 20.

(4) Hispanic-serving institution

The term “Hispanic-serving institution” has the meaning given that term in section 1101a of title 20.

(5) Historically Black college or university

The term “historically Black college or university” has the meaning given the term “part B institution” in section 1061(2) of title 20.

(6) Tribal College or University

The term “Tribal College or University” has the meaning given that term in section 1059c(b) of title 20.

(Pub. L. 107–296, title XIX, § 1923, formerly title XVIII, § 1802, as added Pub. L. 109–347, title V, § 501(a), Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1932; renumbered title XIX, § 1902, Pub. L. 110–53, title I, § 104(a)(1), (2), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 294; amended Pub. L. 111–140, § 4(a), Feb. 16, 2010, 124 Stat. 32; renumbered § 1923 and amended Pub. L. 115–387, § 2(a)(5), (6), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5163, 5164.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1036 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, referred to in subsec. (a)(10), is section 1036 of Pub. L. 111–84, Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2190, which is not classified to the Code. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–387, § 2(a)(6)(A), substituted “Responsibilities” for “Mission of Office” in section catchline.

Subsec. (a)(11). Pub. L. 115–387, § 2(a)(6)(B), substituted “Office” for “Domestic Nuclear Detection Office” in introductory provisions.

2010—Subsec. (a)(10) to (14). Pub. L. 111–140, § 4(a)(1), added pars. (10) to (13) and redesignated former par. (10) as (14).

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 111–140, § 4(a)(2), added subsec. (b).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

FINDINGS

Pub. L. 111–140, § 2, Feb. 16, 2010, 124 Stat. 31, provided that: “Congress finds the following:

¹ So in original. Section 1059d of title 20 defines “Native Hawaiian-serving institution”.

“(1) The threat of a nuclear terrorist attack on American interests, both domestic and abroad, is one of the most serious threats to the national security of the United States. In the wake of an attack, attribution of responsibility would be of utmost importance. Because of the destructive power of a nuclear weapon, there could be little forensic evidence except the radioactive material in the weapon itself.

“(2) Through advanced nuclear forensics, using both existing techniques and those under development, it may be possible to identify the source and pathway of a weapon or material after it is interdicted or detonated. Though identifying intercepted smuggled material is now possible in some cases, pre-detonation forensics is a relatively undeveloped field. The post-detonation nuclear forensics field is also immature, and the challenges are compounded by the pressures and time constraints of performing forensics after a nuclear or radiological attack.

“(3) A robust and well-known capability to identify the source of nuclear or radiological material intended for or used in an act of terror could also deter prospective proliferators. Furthermore, the threat of effective attribution could compel improved security at material storage facilities, preventing the unwitting transfer of nuclear or radiological materials.

“(4)(A) In order to identify special nuclear material and other radioactive materials confidently, it is necessary to have a robust capability to acquire samples in a timely manner, analyze and characterize samples, and compare samples against known signatures of nuclear and radiological material.

“(B) Many of the radioisotopes produced in the detonation of a nuclear device have short half-lives, so the timely acquisition of samples is of the utmost importance. Over the past several decades, the ability of the United States to gather atmospheric samples—often the preferred method of sample acquisition—has diminished. This ability must be restored and modern techniques that could complement or replace existing techniques should be pursued.

“(C) The discipline of pre-detonation forensics is a relatively undeveloped field. The radiation associated with a nuclear or radiological device may affect traditional forensics techniques in unknown ways. In a post-detonation scenario, radiochemistry may provide the most useful tools for analysis and characterization of samples. The number of radiochemistry programs and radiochemists in United States National Laboratories and universities has dramatically declined over the past several decades. The narrowing pipeline of qualified people into this critical field is a serious impediment to maintaining a robust and credible nuclear forensics program.

“(5) Once samples have been acquired and characterized, it is necessary to compare the results against samples of known material from reactors, weapons, and enrichment facilities, and from medical, academic, commercial, and other facilities containing such materials, throughout the world. Some of these samples are available to the International Atomic Energy Agency through safeguards agreements, and some countries maintain internal sample databases. Access to samples in many countries is limited by national security concerns.

“(6) In order to create a sufficient deterrent, it is necessary to have the capability to positively identify the source of nuclear or radiological material, and potential traffickers in nuclear or radiological material must be aware of that capability. International cooperation may be essential to catalogue all existing sources of nuclear or radiological material.”

§ 592a. Technology research and development investment strategy for nuclear and radiological detection

(a) In general

Not later than 1 year after October 13, 2006, the Secretary, the Secretary of Energy, the Sec-

retary of Defense, and the Director of National Intelligence shall submit to Congress a research and development investment strategy for nuclear and radiological detection.

(b) Contents

The strategy under subsection (a) shall include—

- (1) a long term technology roadmap for nuclear and radiological detection applicable to the mission needs of the Department, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence;
- (2) budget requirements necessary to meet the roadmap; and
- (3) documentation of how the Department, the Department of Energy, the Department of Defense, and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence will execute this strategy.

(c) Initial report

Not later than 1 year after October 13, 2006, the Secretary shall submit a report to the appropriate congressional committees on—

- (1) the impact of this title,¹ and the amendments made by this title, on the responsibilities under section 182 of this title; and
- (2) the efforts of the Department to coordinate, integrate, and establish priorities for conducting all basic and applied research, development, testing, and evaluation of technology and systems to detect, prevent, protect, and respond to chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear terrorist attacks.

(d) Annual report

The Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection² and the Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall jointly and annually notify Congress that the strategy and technology road map for nuclear and radiological detection developed under subsections (a) and (b) is consistent with the national policy and strategic plan for identifying priorities, goals, objectives, and policies for coordinating the Federal Government's civilian efforts to identify and develop countermeasures to terrorist threats from weapons of mass destruction that are required under section 182(2) of this title.

(Pub. L. 109-347, title V, § 502, Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1935.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This title, referred to in subsec. (c)(1), is title V of Pub. L. 109-347, Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1932, which enacted this subchapter and this section and amended sections 113 and 182 of this title. For complete classification of title V to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Security and Accountability For Every Port Act of 2006, also known as the SAFE Port Act, and not as part of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 which comprises this chapter.

¹ See References in Text note below.

² See Change of Name note below.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

Reference to the Director for Domestic Nuclear Detection deemed to be a reference to the Assistant Secretary for the Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office, see section 2(b)(1)(B) of Pub. L. 115-387, set out as a note under section 591 of this title.

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of terms used in this section, see section 901 of this title.

§ 593. Hiring authority

In hiring personnel for the Office, the Secretary shall have the hiring and management authorities provided in section 1101¹ of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (5 U.S.C. 3104 note). The term of appointments for employees under subsection (c)(1) of such section may not exceed 5 years before granting any extension under subsection (c)(2) of such section.

(Pub. L. 107-296, title XIX, § 1924, formerly title XVIII, § 1803, as added Pub. L. 109-347, title V, § 501(a), Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1934; renumbered title XIX, § 1903, Pub. L. 110-53, title I, § 104(a)(1), (2), Aug. 3, 2007, 121 Stat. 294; renumbered § 1924, Pub. L. 115-387, § 2(a)(5), Dec. 21, 2018, 132 Stat. 5163.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 1101 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999, referred to in text, is section 1101 of Pub. L. 105-261, which was formerly set out as a note under section 3104 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 114-328, div. A, title XI, § 1121(b), Dec. 23, 2016, 130 Stat. 2452. See section 4092 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

§ 594. Testing authority

(a) In general

The Director shall coordinate with the responsible Federal agency or other entity to facilitate the use by the Office, by its contractors, or by other persons or entities, of existing Government laboratories, centers, ranges, or other testing facilities for the testing of materials, equipment, models, computer software, and other items as may be related to the missions identified in section 592 of this title. Any such use of Government facilities shall be carried out in accordance with all applicable laws, regulations, and contractual provisions, including those governing security, safety, and environmental protection, including, when applicable, the provisions of section 189 of this title. The Office may direct that private sector entities utilizing Government facilities in accordance with this section pay an appropriate fee to the agency that owns or operates those facilities to defray additional costs to the Government resulting from such use.

(b) Confidentiality of test results

The results of tests performed with services made available shall be confidential and shall

¹ See References in Text note below.