

better inform the QHSR, and the bill also mandates that the DHS maintain a paper trail of communications related to the QHSR. This should allow Congress and watchdogs to conduct more effective oversight of DHS.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from New Jersey for introducing this legislation, and I urge all Members to join me in supporting this commonsense legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H.R. 1297.

The Department of Homeland Security's mission is complex and diverse. Not only is DHS charged with preventing terrorism, but it is the lead Federal agency for immigration enforcement, emergency management, cybersecurity, and border, maritime, and transportation security.

Given the breadth of DHS' responsibilities, it is essential that its limited resources be aligned with its mission to meet the ever-changing threat landscape. As such, the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review, which DHS undertakes every 4 years, is a critical tool to ensure that the Department is positioned to effectively carry out its multifaceted mission.

To date, DHS has issued two such reviews and is expected to release its third such review in 2018. My legislation seeks to make refinements to the law to address weaknesses identified by the Government Accountability Office in the prior reviews.

Specifically, my bill seeks to ensure more robust consultation with Homeland Security stakeholders, including State and local governments and academic institutions.

It also seeks to ensure that DHS undertakes and documents our risk analysis to inform its policy positions. GAO emphasized that documentation of the review process, including the risk analysis, is essential to ensuring the repeatability of the review process.

Last Congress, this House unanimously approved this measure in July 2016; however, the Senate did not act on the bill. Last week the Committee on Homeland Security, on a bipartisan basis, voted to favorably report this measure to the House.

My legislation is intended to ensure that the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review is a driving vision for the Department of Homeland Security. By enacting this legislation, Congress can guard against it becoming a paperwork exercise that fails to influence the Department's policies, programs, and priorities.

Given the criticalness of the DHS mission and the increasingly scarce availability of resources, it is essential that DHS produce a risk-informed review that takes into account the diverse views of its Homeland Security partners.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 1297, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN on a very commonsensical bill here that is really going to help protect tax dollars and help keep our country safe.

Mr. Speaker, I once again urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 1297, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. RUTHERFORD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1297.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DHS MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY ACT OF 2017

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1249) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to require a multiyear acquisition strategy of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1249

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017".

SEC. 2. MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle D of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 391 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 836. MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

"(a) MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY REQUIRED.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees and the Comptroller General of the United States a multiyear acquisition strategy to guide the overall direction of the acquisitions of the Department while allowing flexibility to deal with ever-changing threats and risks, and to help industry better understand, plan, and align resources to meet the future acquisition needs of the Department. Such strategy shall be updated and included in each Future Years Homeland Security Program required under section 874.

"(2) FORM.—The strategy required under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex for any sensitive or classified information if necessary. The Secretary shall publish such strategy in an unclassified format that is publicly available.

"(b) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strategy required under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, as the Secretary determines appropriate, consult with headquarters, components, employees in the field, and individuals from industry and the academic community.

"(c) CONTENTS OF STRATEGY.—The strategy shall include the following:

"(1) PRIORITIZED LIST.—A systematic and integrated prioritized list developed by the Under Secretary for Management in coordination with all of the Component Acquisition Executives of Department major acquisition programs that Department and component acquisition investments seek to address, including the expected security and economic benefit of the program or system that is the subject of acquisition and an analysis of how the security and economic benefit derived from such program or system will be measured.

"(2) INVENTORY.—A plan to develop a reliable Department-wide inventory of investments and real property assets to help the Department—

"(A) plan, budget, schedule, and acquire upgrades of its systems and equipment; and

"(B) plan for the acquisition and management of future systems and equipment.

"(3) FUNDING GAPS.—A plan to address funding gaps between funding requirements for major acquisition programs and known available resources, including, to the maximum extent practicable, ways of leveraging best practices to identify and eliminate overpayment for items to—

"(A) prevent wasteful purchasing;

"(B) achieve the greatest level of efficiency and cost savings by rationalizing purchases;

"(C) align pricing for similar items; and

"(D) utilize purchase timing and economies of scale.

"(4) IDENTIFICATION OF CAPABILITIES.—An identification of test, evaluation, modeling, and simulation capabilities that will be required to—

"(A) support the acquisition of technologies to meet the needs of such strategy;

"(B) leverage to the greatest extent possible emerging technological trends and research and development trends within the public and private sectors; and

"(C) identify ways to ensure that appropriate technology is acquired and integrated into the Department's operating doctrine to improve mission performance.

"(5) FOCUS ON FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS.—An assessment of ways the Department can improve its ability to test and acquire innovative solutions to allow needed incentives and protections for appropriate risk-taking in order to meet its acquisition needs with resiliency, agility, and responsiveness to assure homeland security and facilitate trade.

"(6) FOCUS ON INCENTIVES TO SAVE TAXPAYER DOLLARS.—An assessment of ways the Department can develop incentives for program managers and senior Department acquisition officials to—

"(A) prevent cost overruns;

"(B) avoid schedule delays; and

"(C) achieve cost savings in major acquisition programs.

"(7) FOCUS ON ADDRESSING DELAYS AND BID PROTESTS.—An assessment of ways the Department can improve the acquisition process to minimize cost overruns in—

"(A) requirements development;

"(B) procurement announcements;

"(C) requests for proposals;

"(D) evaluation of proposals;

"(E) protests of decisions and awards; and

"(F) the use of best practices.

"(8) FOCUS ON IMPROVING OUTREACH.—An identification and assessment of ways to increase opportunities for communication and collaboration with industry, small and disadvantaged businesses, intra-government entities, university centers of excellence, accredited certification and standards development organizations, and national laboratories to ensure that the Department understands the market for technologies, products, and innovation that is available to

meet its mission needs and to inform the Department's requirements-setting process before engaging in an acquisition, including—

“(A) methods designed especially to engage small and disadvantaged businesses, a cost-benefit analysis of the tradeoffs that small and disadvantaged businesses provide, information relating to barriers to entry for small and disadvantaged businesses, and information relating to unique requirements for small and disadvantaged businesses; and

“(B) within the Department Vendor Communication Plan and Market Research Guide, instructions for interaction by acquisition program managers with such entities to—

“(i) prevent misinterpretation of acquisition regulations; and

“(ii) permit, within legal and ethical boundaries, interacting with such entities with transparency.

“(9) COMPETITION.—A plan regarding competition under subsection (d).

“(10) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.—A plan regarding the Department acquisition workforce under subsection (e).

“(d) COMPETITION PLAN.—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall also include a plan to address actions to ensure competition, or the option of competition, for major acquisition programs. Such plan may include assessments of the following measures in appropriate cases if such measures are cost effective:

“(1) Competitive prototyping.

“(2) Dual-sourcing.

“(3) Unbundling of contracts.

“(4) Funding of next-generation prototype systems or subsystems.

“(5) Use of modular, open architectures to enable competition for upgrades.

“(6) Acquisition of complete technical data packages.

“(7) Periodic competitions for subsystem upgrades.

“(8) Licensing of additional suppliers, including small businesses.

“(9) Periodic system or program reviews to address long-term competitive effects of program decisions.

“(e) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE PLAN.—

“(1) ACQUISITION WORKFORCE.—The strategy required under subsection (a) shall also include a plan to address Department acquisition workforce accountability and talent management that identifies the acquisition workforce needs of each component performing acquisition functions and develops options for filling such needs with qualified individuals, including a cost-benefit analysis of contracting for acquisition assistance.

“(2) ADDITIONAL MATTERS COVERED.—The acquisition workforce plan under this subsection shall address ways to—

“(A) improve the recruitment, hiring, training, and retention of Department acquisition workforce personnel, including contracting officer's representatives, in order to retain highly qualified individuals who have experience in the acquisition life cycle, complex procurements, and management of large programs;

“(B) empower program managers to have the authority to manage their programs in an accountable and transparent manner as such managers work with the acquisition workforce;

“(C) prevent duplication within Department acquisition workforce training and certification requirements through leveraging already-existing training within the Federal Government, academic community, or private industry;

“(D) achieve integration and consistency with Government-wide training and accreditation standards, acquisition training tools, and training facilities;

“(E) designate the acquisition positions that will be necessary to support the Department acquisition requirements, including in the fields of—

“(i) program management;

“(ii) systems engineering;

“(iii) procurement, including contracting;

“(iv) test and evaluation;

“(v) life cycle logistics;

“(vi) cost estimating and program financial management; and

“(vii) additional disciplines appropriate to Department mission needs;

“(F) strengthen the performance of contracting officers' representatives (as defined in subpart 1.602-2 and subpart 2.101 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation), including by—

“(i) assessing the extent to which such representatives are certified and receive training that is appropriate;

“(ii) assessing what training is most effective with respect to the type and complexity of assignment; and

“(iii) implementing actions to improve training based on such assessments; and

“(G) identify ways to increase training for relevant investigators and auditors of the Department to examine fraud in major acquisition programs, including identifying opportunities to leverage existing Government and private sector resources in coordination with the Inspector General of the Department.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) ACQUISITION.—The term ‘acquisition’ has the meaning given such term in section 131 of title 41, United States Code.

“(2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—The term ‘appropriate congressional committees’ means—

“(A) the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate; and

“(B) the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

“(3) BEST PRACTICES.—The term ‘best practices’, with respect to acquisition, means—

“(A) a knowledge-based approach to capability development that includes identifying and validating needs;

“(B) assessing alternatives to select the most appropriate solution;

“(C) clearly establishing well-defined requirements;

“(D) developing realistic cost assessments and schedules;

“(E) securing stable funding that matches resources to requirements;

“(F) demonstrating technology, design, and manufacturing maturity;

“(G) using milestones and exit criteria or specific accomplishments that demonstrate progress;

“(H) adopting and executing standardized processes with known success across programs;

“(I) establishing an adequate workforce that is qualified and sufficient to perform necessary functions; and

“(J) integrating into the mission and business operations of the Department of Homeland Security the capabilities described in subparagraphs (A) through (I).

“(4) COMPONENT ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE.—The term ‘Component Acquisition Executive’ means the senior acquisition official within a component who is designated in writing by the Under Secretary for Management, in consultation with the component head, with authority and responsibility for leading a process and staff to provide acquisition and program management oversight, policy, and guidance to ensure that statutory, regulatory, and higher level policy requirements are fulfilled, including compliance with Fed-

eral law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives established by the Under Secretary for Management.

“(5) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM.—The term ‘major acquisition program’ means a Department acquisition program that is estimated by the Secretary to require an eventual total expenditure of at least \$300,000,000 (based on fiscal year 2017 constant dollars) over its life cycle cost.”.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 835 the following new item:

“Sec. 836. Multiyear acquisition strategy.”.

SEC. 3. GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE REVIEW OF MULTIYEAR ACQUISITION STRATEGY.

(a) REVIEW.—After submission of the first multiyear acquisition strategy in accordance with section 836 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (as added by section 2 of this Act) after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a review of such plan within 180 days to analyze the viability of such plan's effectiveness in the following:

(1) Complying with the requirements of such section 836.

(2) Establishing clear connections between Department of Homeland Security objectives and acquisition (as such term is defined in such section) priorities.

(3) Demonstrating that Department acquisition policy reflects program management best practices (as such term is defined in such section) and standards.

(4) Ensuring competition or the option of competition for major acquisition programs (as such term is defined in such section).

(5) Considering potential cost savings through using already-existing technologies when developing acquisition program requirements.

(6) Preventing duplication within Department acquisition workforce training requirements through leveraging already-existing training within the Federal Government, academic community, or private industry.

(7) Providing incentives for acquisition program managers to reduce acquisition and procurement costs through the use of best practices and disciplined program management.

(b) REPORT.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate a report on the review conducted under this section. Such report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) and the gentlewoman from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include any extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Pennsylvania?

There was no objection.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1249, the DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017.

The Department of Homeland Security spends billions of taxpayer dollars annually on a variety of systems to secure our borders, protect our aviation system, safeguard our shores, and shield our cyberspace, among other critical missions. Unfortunately, watchdogs at the Government Accountability Office and the DHS Office of Inspector General have found longstanding problems with how DHS has managed these programs. DHS continues to be on GAO's high-risk list for acquisition management, meaning these programs are susceptible to fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement.

In addition, the Department has failed to have a strategic vision for its major purposes. The result has been wasted effort and taxpayer money gone, with little to show for it. Look at the TSA puffer machines from a few years ago as a past example.

Without a comprehensive strategy, industry also does not have the needed information to best support DHS in making smart investments in executing its mission.

My bill will require DHS to establish this much-needed strategy to ensure taxpayer dollars are safeguarded and frontline operators receive the tools they need to successfully protect Americans.

My bill will also ensure that DHS works collaboratively with the private sector to fully leverage their innovative solutions. As a former FBI agent, I know how important it is to get critical tools out to the field to help agents and officers secure our Nation.

I urge all Members to join me in supporting this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1249, the DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Safeguarding our country and the American people is the Department of Homeland Security's most solemn responsibility.

Today, Homeland Security threats are multidimensional and changing at an unprecedented pace. As such, it is critical that DHS' acquisition programs be targeted to meet the demands of an ever-evolving threat environment. To ensure long-term strategic planning, H.R. 1249 directs DHS to develop a multiyear acquisition strategy as is currently required at the Transportation Security Administration.

The bill is intended to foster a more strategic approach to how DHS executes and manages procurement. Specifically, it directs DHS, in consultation with industry stakeholders and academia, to develop a prioritized list

of major acquisitions together with information on the expected security and economic benefits of these programs.

To guard against wasteful spending on redundant programs, it also directs DHS to work towards developing a DHS-wide inventory of investments and real property. Once DHS has such an inventory, I believe it will find areas for greater efficiency and be able to redirect limited Homeland Security resources to vital programs.

One of the critical features of the strategy is the requirement that DHS have a plan to address funding gaps that may exist in major acquisition programs.

Given that the Trump administration's 2018 budget prioritizes funding the border wall that the President promised during the campaign and amplifying immigration enforcement, there is a real concern that important programs that are desperately needed within DHS will get short shrift.

H.R. 1249 was approved unanimously by the Committee on Homeland Security earlier this month, and similar legislation was approved by a voice vote by the House in October of 2015.

Mr. Speaker, the establishment of the Department-wide acquisition strategy, as H.R. 1249 requires, has the potential of helping the Department achieve economies of scale that result in cost savings and better use of limited Homeland Security resources.

I am particularly pleased that the legislation directs the Department to assess ways it can better test and acquire innovative technologies. Some of the most vexing Homeland Security challenges can only be fully addressed when DHS partners with innovators, particularly small businesses.

I want to congratulate the gentleman, my colleague from Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge the support of H.R. 1249, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I once again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1249, and I want to thank my colleague from New Jersey (Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN) for her bipartisan leadership on a bill that will surely help keep our country safe.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1249, the DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017. I thank Representative FITZPATRICK for his leadership in championing this important legislation. I also want to commend the other Committee Members, especially the freshmen, on their key bipartisan legislation being considered today.

We are in dangerous times and our homeland faces significant threats. The tools we provide our frontline personnel securing our borders, protecting our airports, and defending our cyber networks need to be delivered on time and properly designed to meet their needs.

Far too often, DHS has mismanaged major acquisition programs and the result has been systems that are late, do less, and cost more

to the taxpayer. Representative FITZPATRICK's bill, along with Representatives RUTHERFORD and HIGGINS' bills, is critical in ensuring that DHS better manages these vital acquisition programs. These bills put important safeguards into place to guard against waste, fraud, abuse, and mismanagement.

As we move forward with our Committee's work to reauthorize DHS for the first time ever, we will continue our focus on draining the waste from the Department to ensure our homeland is secured efficiently and effectively. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1249.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Committee on Homeland Security I rise in support of H.R. 1249, the "DHS Multiyear Acquisition Strategy Act of 2017", which requires the Department of Homeland Security to develop a multiyear acquisition strategy.

H.R. 1249 seeks to streamline the Department of Homeland Security's acquisition process to promote strategic investment as well as cost savings for taxpayers.

DHS would be required to provide Congress with the new strategy which needs to include:

1. A prioritized list of major acquisition programs
2. An inventory of investments and real estate assets
3. A plan to address funding gaps, prevent wasteful purchases, achieve efficiency, align prices for similar items, and use purchase timing and economies of scale
4. An identification of tests to support the acquisition of technology, leverage emerging trends and incorporate technology into DHS's operating doctrine
5. An assessment of how DHS could encourage appropriate risk-taking and minimize cost overruns, including when the department identifies needs, Develops cost assessments, Secures funding, Demonstrates technology maturity, and establishes its workforce
6. An assessment to improve collaboration with industry, small and disadvantaged businesses, intra-government offices, university centers of excellence, certification organizations, and national laboratories

Although the DHS has taken measures to improve acquisition management, DHS programs still cost taxpayers over \$7 billion per year.

In its 2017 list of "high-risk" areas, GAO reported DHS needed to improve the affordability of its major acquisition programs and address staffing shortfalls.

DHS acquisition programs may continue to be at high risk for waste, fraud, and abuse.

This bill will assist oversight committees in better preparing men and women on the frontlines securing our borders, protecting our airports, and defending our shores by making sure we know what works and what is needed before taxpayer dollars are spent.

Efficient use of resources within the Department of Homeland Security is crucial to the safety of all Texans, and all Americans especially in regards to border security.

The Texas-Mexico border makes up 1,254 miles of the 1,900-mile-long U.S.-Mexico border.

The more money wasted on unnecessary overhead costs, the less resources the Department has to fulfill its key mission of protecting our border and our homeland.

By passing this bipartisan measure, we can ensure that the DHS operates in a more efficient manner and can better stay ahead of threats to our country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 1249.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. FITZPATRICK) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1249, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1630

DHS ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES ACT OF 2017

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1252) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for certain acquisition authorities for the Under Secretary of Management of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1252

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “DHS Acquisition Authorities Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES FOR UNDER SECRETARY FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

Section 701 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341) is amended by—

(1) redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (e) and (f); and

(2) inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

“(d) ACQUISITION AND RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 1702(b) of title 41, United States Code, the Under Secretary for Management is the Chief Acquisition Officer of the Department. As Chief Acquisition Officer, the Under Secretary shall have the authorities and perform the functions specified in section 1702(b) of such title, and perform all other functions and responsibilities delegated by the Secretary or described in this subsection.

“(2) FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—In addition to the authorities and functions specified in section 1702(b) of title 41, United States Code, the functions and responsibilities of the Under Secretary for Management related to acquisition (as such term is defined in section 710) include the following:

“(A) Advising the Secretary regarding acquisition management activities, taking into account risks of failure to achieve cost, schedule, or performance parameters, to ensure that the Department achieves its mission through the adoption of widely accepted program management best practices (as such term is defined in section 710) and standards and, where appropriate, acquisition innovation best practices.

“(B) Leading the Department’s acquisition oversight body, the Acquisition Review

Board, and exercising the acquisition decision authority (as such term is defined in section 710) to approve, pause, modify (including the rescission of approvals of program milestones), or cancel major acquisition programs (as such term is defined in section 710), unless the Under Secretary delegates such authority to a Component Acquisition Executive (as such term is defined in section 710) pursuant to paragraph (3).

“(C) Establishing policies for acquisition that implement an approach that takes into account risks of failure to achieve cost, schedule, or performance parameters that all components of the Department shall comply with, including outlining relevant authorities for program managers to effectively manage acquisition programs.

“(D) Ensuring that each major acquisition program has a Department-approved acquisition program baseline (as such term is defined in section 710), pursuant to the Department’s acquisition management policy.

“(E) Ensuring that the heads of components and Component Acquisition Executives comply with Federal law, the Federal Acquisition Regulation, and Department acquisition management directives.

“(F) Ensuring that grants and financial assistance are provided only to individuals and organizations that are not suspended or debarred.

“(G) Distributing guidance throughout the Department to ensure that contractors involved in acquisitions, particularly contractors that access the Department’s information systems and technologies, adhere to relevant Department policies related to physical and information security as identified by the Under Secretary for Management.

“(H) Overseeing the Component Acquisition Executive organizational structure to ensure Component Acquisition Executives have sufficient capabilities and comply with Department acquisition policies.

“(3) DELEGATION OF ACQUISITION DECISION AUTHORITY.—

“(A) LEVEL 3 ACQUISITIONS.—The Under Secretary for Management may delegate acquisition decision authority in writing to the relevant Component Acquisition Executive for an acquisition program that has a life cycle cost estimate of less than \$300,000,000.

“(B) LEVEL 2 ACQUISITIONS.—The Under Secretary for Management may delegate acquisition decision authority in writing to the relevant Component Acquisition Executive for a major acquisition program that has a life cycle cost estimate of at least \$300,000,000 but not more than \$1,000,000,000 if all of the following requirements are met:

“(i) The component concerned possesses working policies, processes, and procedures that are consistent with Department-level acquisition policy.

“(ii) The Component Acquisition Executive concerned has adequate, experienced, and dedicated professional employees with program management training, as applicable, commensurate with the size of the acquisition programs and related activities delegated to such Component Acquisition Executive by the Under Secretary for Management.

“(iii) Each major acquisition program concerned has written documentation showing that it has a Department-approved acquisition program baseline and it is meeting agreed-upon cost, schedule, and performance thresholds.

“(4) RELATIONSHIP TO UNDER SECRETARY FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this subsection shall diminish the authority granted to the Under Secretary for Science and Technology under this Act. The Under Secretary for Management and the Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall cooperate in

matters related to the coordination of acquisitions across the Department so that investments of the Directorate of Science and Technology are able to support current and future requirements of the components of the Department.

“(B) OPERATIONAL TESTING AND EVALUATION.—The Under Secretary for Science and Technology shall—

“(i) ensure, in coordination with relevant component heads, that major acquisition programs—

“(I) complete operational testing and evaluation of technologies and systems;

“(II) use independent verification and validation of operational test and evaluation implementation and results; and

“(III) document whether such programs meet all performance requirements included in their acquisition program baselines;

“(ii) ensure that such operational testing and evaluation includes all system components and incorporates operators into the testing to ensure that systems perform as intended in the appropriate operational setting; and

“(iii) determine if testing conducted by other Federal agencies and private entities is relevant and sufficient in determining whether systems perform as intended in the operational setting.”.

SEC. 3. ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES FOR CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

Paragraph (2) of section 702(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 342(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(J) Oversee the costs of acquisition programs and related activities to ensure that actual and planned costs are in accordance with budget estimates and are affordable, or can be adequately funded, over the life cycle of such programs and activities.”.

SEC. 4. ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES FOR CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.

Section 703 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 343) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (b) as subsection (c); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

“(b) ACQUISITION RESPONSIBILITIES.—Notwithstanding section 11315 of title 40, United States Code, the acquisition responsibilities of the Chief Information Officer, in consultation with the Under Secretary for Management, shall include the following:

“(1) Oversee the management of the Homeland Security Enterprise Architecture and ensure that, before each acquisition decision event (as such term is defined in section 710), approved information technology acquisitions comply with departmental information technology management processes, technical requirements, and the Homeland Security Enterprise Architecture, and in any case in which information technology acquisitions do not comply with the Department’s management directives, make recommendations to the Acquisition Review Board regarding such noncompliance.

“(2) Be responsible for providing recommendations to the Acquisition Review Board regarding information technology programs, and be responsible for developing information technology acquisition strategic guidance.”.

SEC. 5. ACQUISITION AUTHORITIES FOR PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT (PARM).

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 341 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following: