

Editorial Notes**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

Provisions similar to those in this section were contained in Pub. L. 115–91, div. A, title XVI, §1612, Dec. 12, 2017, 131 Stat. 1729, which was set out in a note under section 2271 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 118–159, div. A, title XVI, §1601(b), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2158.

§ 2272. Space science and technology strategy: coordination

The Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall jointly develop and implement a space science and technology strategy and shall review and, as appropriate, revise the strategy biennially. Functions of the Secretary under this section shall be carried out jointly by the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering and the official of the Department of Defense designated as the Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space.¹

(Added Pub. L. 108–136, div. A, title IX, §911(a)(1), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1563; amended Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title IX, §911(a)(1)–(3), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2428, 2429; Pub. L. 111–383, div. A, title IX, §901(j)(2), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4324; Pub. L. 114–92, div. A, title XVI, §1604, Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1098; Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title IX, §902(28), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1546.)

Editorial Notes**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 2272, act Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 124, related to contracts to obtain designs submitted in design competitions, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103–160, div. A, title VIII, §821(a)(1), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1704.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Pub. L. 116–92 substituted “Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering” for “Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering”.

2015—Pub. L. 114–92 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section consisted of subsecs. (a) to (c) relating to space science and technology strategy, required coordination, and definitions.

2011—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 111–383 substituted “Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering” for “Director of Defense Research and Engineering” wherever appearing.

2009—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 111–84, §911(a)(1), substituted “The Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence shall jointly develop” for “The Secretary of Defense shall develop”.

Subsec. (a)(2)(D). Pub. L. 111–84, §911(a)(2), added subpar. (D).

Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 111–84, §911(a)(3), amended par. (5) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (5) read as follows: “The strategy shall be available for review by the congressional defense committees.”

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2011 AMENDMENT**

Amendment by Pub. L. 111–383 effective Jan. 1, 2011, see section 901(p) of Pub. L. 111–383, set out as a note under section 131 of this title.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For termination and transfer of functions of the Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space, see

¹ See Transfer of Functions note below.

section 1601(b)(1) of Pub. L. 115–91, set out as a Termination of Certain Positions and Entities note under former section 2279a of this title.

INITIAL REPORT

Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title IX, §911(a)(4), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2429, required the first space science and technology strategy required to be submitted under former 10 U.S.C. 2272(a)(5) to be submitted on the date on which the President submitted to Congress the budget for fiscal year 2012 under 31 U.S.C. 1105.

§ 2273. Policy regarding assured access to space: national security payloads

(a) **POLICY.**—It is the policy of the United States for the President to undertake actions appropriate to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the United States has the capabilities necessary to launch and insert United States national security payloads into space whenever such payloads are needed in space.

(b) **INCLUDED ACTIONS.**—The appropriate actions referred to in subsection (a) shall include, at a minimum, providing resources and policy guidance to sustain—

(1) the availability of at least two space launch vehicles (or families of space launch vehicles) capable of delivering into space any payload designated by the Secretary of Defense or the Director of National Intelligence as a national security payload;

(2) a robust space launch infrastructure and industrial base; and

(3) the availability of rapid, responsive, and reliable space launches for national security space programs to—

(A) improve the responsiveness and flexibility of a national security space system;

(B) lower the costs of launching a national security space system; and

(C) maintain risks of mission success at acceptable levels.

(c) **COORDINATION.**—The Secretary of Defense shall, to the maximum extent practicable, pursue the attainment of the capabilities described in subsection (a) in coordination with the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Director of National Intelligence.

(Added Pub. L. 108–136, div. A, title IX, §912(a)(1), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1565; Pub. L. 110–181, div. A, title IX, §931(a)(12), Jan. 28, 2008, 122 Stat. 285; Pub. L. 110–417, [div. A], title IX, §932(a)(11), Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4576; Pub. L. 111–84, div. A, title X, §1073(c)(10), Oct. 28, 2009, 123 Stat. 2475; Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title XVI, §1603(a), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 2105; Pub. L. 116–92, div. A, title XVII, §1731(a)(34), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1814.)

Editorial Notes**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 2273, acts Aug. 10, 1956, ch. 1041, 70A Stat. 125; Apr. 2, 1982, Pub. L. 97–164, title I, §160(a)(4), 96 Stat. 48; Oct. 29, 1992, Pub. L. 102–572, title IX, §902(b)(1), 106 Stat. 4516, related to right of United States to designs, rights of designers to patents, and rights to sue United States, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 103–160, div. A, title VIII, §821(a)(1), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1704.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 116–92 inserted semicolon at end.