

X, §1075(e)(19), Jan. 7, 2011, 124 Stat. 4375; Pub. L. 118-159, div. C, title XXXI, §3111(b), Dec. 23, 2024, 138 Stat. 2293.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Higher Education Act of 1965, referred to in subsec. (f), is Pub. L. 89-329, Nov. 8, 1965, 79 Stat. 1219. Title IV of the Act is classified generally to subchapter IV (§1070 et seq.) of chapter 28 of Title 20, Education. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1001 of Title 20 and Tables.

Section 3101(a)(2), referred to in subsec. (h), is section 3101(a)(2) of Pub. L. 110-417, div. C, title XXXI, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4752, which is not classified to the Code.

##### CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Duncan Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2009, and not as part of the National Nuclear Security Administration Act which comprises this chapter.

##### AMENDMENTS

2024—Pub. L. 118-159 substituted “National Nuclear Security Administration” for “Department of Energy” and “of the Administration” for “of the Department” wherever appearing.

2011—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 111-383, §1075(e)(19)(A), inserted closing parenthesis before semicolon.

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 111-383, §1075(e)(19)(B), substituted “fails to repay” for “fails repay”.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### “CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES” DEFINED

Congressional defense committees has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(16) of Title 10, Armed Forces, see section 3 of Pub. L. 110-417, Oct. 14, 2008, 122 Stat. 4372. See note under section 101 of Title 10.

#### § 2445. Limitation on bonuses for employees who engage in improper program management

##### (a) Limitation

###### (1) In general

The Secretary of Energy or the Administrator may not pay to a covered employee a bonus during the one-year period beginning on the date on which the Secretary or the Administrator, as the case may be, determines that the covered employee engaged in improper program management that resulted in a notification under section 2753 of this title or significantly and detrimentally affected the cost, scope, or schedule associated with the approval of critical decision 3 in the acquisition process for a project (as defined in Department of Energy Order 413.3B (relating to program management and project management for the acquisition of capital assets)).

###### (2) Implementation guidance

Not later than one year after November 25, 2015, the Secretary shall issue guidance for the implementation of paragraph (1).

##### (b) Guidance prohibiting bonuses for additional employees

Not later than 180 days after November 25, 2015, the Secretary and the Administrator shall each issue guidance prohibiting the payment of a bonus to a covered employee during the one-year period beginning on the date on which the

Secretary or the Administrator, as the case may be, determines that the covered employee engaged in improper program management—

(1) that jeopardized the health, safety, or security of employees or facilities of the Administration or another element of the Department of Energy involved in nuclear security; or

(2) in carrying out defense nuclear non-proliferation activities.

##### (c) Waiver

The Secretary or the Administrator, as the case may be, may waive the limitation on the payment of a bonus under subsection (a) or (b) on a case-by-case basis if—

(1) the Secretary or the Administrator, as the case may be, notifies the appropriate congressional committees of such waiver; and

(2) a period of 60 days elapses following such notification.

##### (d) Definitions

In this section:

(1) The term “appropriate congressional committees” means—

(A) the congressional defense committees; and

(B) the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

(2) The term “bonus” means a bonus or award paid under title 5, including under chapters 45 or 53 of such title, or any other provision of law.

(3) The term “covered employee” has the meaning given that term in section 2443 of this title.

(Pub. L. 106-65, div. C, title XXXII, §3246, as added Pub. L. 114-92, div. C, title XXXI, §3111(b)(1), Nov. 25, 2015, 129 Stat. 1187.)

#### § 2446. Treatment of contractors who engage in improper program management

##### (a) In general

Except as provided by subsection (b), if the Secretary of Energy or the Administrator determines that a covered contractor engaged in improper program management that resulted in a notification under section 2753 of this title or significantly and detrimentally affected the cost, scope, or schedule associated with the approval of critical decision 3 in the acquisition process for a project (as defined in Department of Energy Order 413.3B (relating to program management and project management for the acquisition of capital assets)), the Secretary or the Administrator, as the case may be, shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees—

(1) an explanation as to whether termination of the contract is an appropriate remedy;

(2) a description of the terms of the contract regarding award fees and performance; and

(3) a description of how the Secretary or the Administrator, as the case may be, plans to exercise options under the contract.

##### (b) Exception

If the Secretary or the Administrator, as the case may be, is not able to submit the informa-