

PUBLIC LAW 116-283—JAN. 1, 2021

WILLIAM M. (MAC) THORNBERRY  
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

★ (Star Print)

## Subtitle G—Administrative Matters

### SEC. 3161. MODIFICATIONS TO ENHANCED PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY TO MANAGE SUPPLY CHAIN RISK.

Section 4806 of the Atomic Energy Defense Act (50 U.S.C. 2786) is amended—

(1) in subsections (a) and (c), by inserting “or special exclusion action” after “covered procurement action” each place it appears;

(2) by redesignating subsections (e) and (f) as subsections (f) and (g), respectively;

(3) by inserting after subsection (d) the following new subsection (e):

“(e) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may delegate the authority under this section to—

“(1) in the case of the Administration, the Administrator; and

“(2) in the case of any other component of the Department of Energy, the Senior Procurement Executive of the Department.”; and

(4) in subsection (f), as redesignated by paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (7);

and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph (6):

“(6) SPECIAL EXCLUSION ACTION.—The term ‘special exclusion action’ means an action to prohibit, for a period not to exceed two years, the award of any contracts or subcontracts by the Administration or any other component of the Department of Energy related to any covered system to a source the Secretary determines to represent a supply chain risk.”.

Definition.

### SEC. 3162. EXTENSION OF PILOT PROGRAM ON UNAVAILABILITY FOR OVERHEAD COSTS OF AMOUNTS SPECIFIED FOR LABORATORY-DIRECTED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 3119 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 50 U.S.C. 2791 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(2), by striking “four” and inserting “nine”; and

(2) in subsection (d), by striking “February 15, 2020” and inserting “February 15, 2025”.

## Subtitle H—Other Matters

### SEC. 3171. INDEPENDENT STUDY ON POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF NUCLEAR WAR.

(a) STUDY.—The Administrator for Nuclear Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, shall seek to enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine under which the National Academies conduct a study on the environmental effects of nuclear war.

Consultation.  
Contracts.

(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The study under subsection (a) shall include the following:

- Evaluation. (1) An evaluation of the non-fallout atmospheric effects of plausible scenarios for nuclear war, ranging from low-quantity regional exchanges to large-scale exchanges between major powers.
- Examination. (2) An examination of the effects evaluated under paragraph (1) by—  
 (A) the yield, type, and number of nuclear weapons;  
 (B) the types and locations of targets;  
 (C) the time distribution of the explosions;  
 (D) the atmospheric conditions; and  
 (E) other factors that may have a significant impact on the effects.
- Assessment. (3) An assessment of current models of nuclear explosions, including with respect to—  
 (A) the fires such explosions may cause;  
 (B) the atmospheric transport of the gases from such explosions;  
 (C) the radioactive material from such explosions; and  
 (D) the soot and other debris from such fires and explosions and the atmospheric, terrestrial, and marine consequences of such effects, including with respect to changes in weather patterns, airborne particulate concentrations, stratospheric ozone, agriculture, and long-term regional ecosystem viability.  
 (4) Identification of the capabilities and limitations of the models described in paragraph (3) for assessing the environmental effects of nuclear war, including—  
 (A) an evaluation of the relevant uncertainties;  
 (B) a highlight of the key data gaps; and  
 (C) recommendations for how such models can be improved to better inform decision making.
- Evaluation. (c) REPORT.—  
 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the National Academies shall submit to the Administrator, the Secretary, the Director, and the congressional defense committees a report on the study under subsection (a).
- Recommendations. (2) FORM.—The report under paragraph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex.
- Classified information. (d) PROVISION OF INFORMATION.—  
 (1) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—The Secretary shall provide to the National Academies such information of the Department of Defense as is necessary for the National Academies to conduct the study under subsection (a), including information relating to relevant scenarios described in subsection (b).  
 (2) DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE.—The Director shall provide to the National Academies such information on foreign adversary capabilities as is necessary for the National Academies to conduct the study under subsection (a), including information relating to relevant scenarios described in subsection (b).

**SEC. 3172. REVIEW OF FUTURE OF COMPUTING BEYOND EXASCALE AT THE NATIONAL NUCLEAR SECURITY ADMINISTRATION.**

- Consultation. Contracts. (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator for Nuclear Security, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to review the