

**H.R. 8800—NATIONAL DEFENSE  
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2027**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE &  
SPECIAL OPERATIONS**

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## DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS

### TITLE X—GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

##### SUBTITLE D—MISCELLANEOUS AUTHORITIES AND LIMITATIONS

###### Sec. 1042—Authority for Secretary of Defense Waiver Relating to Certain Training

This section would amend section 1050 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026 (Public Law 119-60) by authorizing the Secretary of Defense to waive the prohibition under subsection (a) with respect to special operations forces.

###### Sec. 1044—Implementation of Cognitive Performance Enhancement Program for Special Operations Forces

This section would require the Commander of the U.S. Special Operations Command to implement a cognitive performance enhancement program to enhance cognitive performance metrics across the special operations forces.

###### Sec. 1047—Limitation on Availability of Funds for Travel Expenses of the Office of the Secretary of Defense

This section would limit the funds available to the Office of the Secretary of Defense for travel expenses to not more than a 75 percent until the Secretary of Defense submits to the congressional defense committees a certification that the Department of Defense is compliant with the requirements of section 1067 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118-159).

##### SUBTITLE F—OTHER MATTERS

###### Sec. 1072—Ubiquitous Technical Surveillance and Digital Force Protection

This section would require the Secretary of Defense to designate the head of an organization of the Department of Defense to be responsible for ubiquitous technical surveillance functions and develop a strategy for research, development and procurement of secure communications and obfuscation technologies. This section would also require the Secretary of Defense to submit to the congressional defense committees a plan to establish a program of record to meet counter-ubiquitous technical surveillance and digital protection needs across the

Department of Defense. This section would require the Secretary of Defense to submit a report not later than December 1, 2027, on the plan required and the identification of the Department of Defense organization that has been designated.

## TITLE XII—MATTERS RELATING TO FOREIGN NATIONS

### LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

#### SUBTITLE A—ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING

##### Sec. 1201—Modification of Authority for Support of Special Operations for Irregular Warfare

This section would amend section 127d(a) of title 10, United States Code to increase the authorized amount from \$20.0 million to \$50.0 million.

##### Sec. 1202—Review of Execution of Programs to Build Partner Capacity

This section would require the Comptroller General of the United States to submit a report related to execution of building partner capacity programs pursuant to section 333 of title 10, United States Code.

##### Sec. 1203—Establishment of Partnership Programs on Military Trauma Care and Research Between the United States and Foreign Countries

This section would authorize the establishment of certain partnership programs on military trauma care and research between the United States and foreign countries.

#### SUBTITLE E—MATTERS RELATING TO THE INDO-PACIFIC

##### Sec. 1242—Modification of Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative

This section would authorize up to \$1.0 billion for the Taiwan Security Cooperation Initiative pursuant to section 1323 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118-159).

#### SUBTITLE F—OTHER MATTERS

##### Sec. 1251—Repeal of Temporary Authority to Provide Training to Military Forces or National Security Forces of Costa Rica and Panama

This section would repeal section 1209 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118-159).

# TITLE XVI—SPACE ACTIVITIES, STRATEGIC PROGRAMS, AND INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

## LEGISLATIVE PROVISIONS

### SUBTITLE B—DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AND INTELLIGENCE-RELATED ACTIVITIES

#### Sec. 1611—Expenditure of Funds Across Fiscal Years for Department of Defense Intelligence and Counterintelligence Activities

This section would amend section 429a of title 10, United States Code, to allow the Secretary of Defense to expend a limited amount of funds for intelligence and counterintelligence activities over the course of 2 fiscal years and require additional reporting requirements for the use of these funds.

#### Sec. 1612—Permanent Authority for Military Intelligence Collection and Analysis Partnerships

This section would codify and make permanent the authority for the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency to accept and expend funds from foreign partners for the purpose of joint and combined military intelligence collection and analysis activities.

#### Sec. 1613—Repeal of Certain Reporting and Briefing Requirements

This section would repeal section 1622 of Public Law 117-81, requiring the Secretary of Defense to develop a strategy and plan to implement certain defense intelligence reforms, and section 1560 of Public Law 117-263 requiring a briefing on the Department's plan to deter and counter adversaries in the information environment. These sections are now outdated and no longer necessary to keep in law.

#### Sec. 1614—Modification of Authority of Army Counterintelligence Agents to Execute Warrants and Make Arrests

This section would amend section 7377(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code, by striking the 4-year period, thereby making the underlying authority for certain special agents of the Army Counterintelligence Command to execute warrants and make arrests permanent.

#### Sec. 1615—Periodic Strategy and Assessment of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Capabilities to Meet Intelligence Collection Priorities

This section would require the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security to periodically develop an intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities assessment and strategy evaluating the ability of the Department of Defense's ISR capabilities to meet Department of Defense intelligence collection requirements. The reports shall be issued every 2 years until 2037 and include an assessment of the ISR landscape and a strategy to improve the capabilities. The strategy will be submitted to the congressional defense and intelligence committees.

#### SUBTITLE E—OTHER MATTERS

##### Sec. 1651—Briefings and Reports on Cross-Functional Team for Anomalous Health Incidents

This section would codify the Anomalous Health Incidents (AHI) Cross-Functional Team (CFT); require quarterly briefings on CFT activities through March 1, 2028; extend the semi-annual briefings through 2030; and require an annual report on CFT activities.

# **BILL LANGUAGE**

1 **SEC. 1042.[Log 84891] AUTHORITY FOR SECRETARY OF DE-**  
2 **FENSE WAIVER RELATING TO CERTAIN**  
3 **TRAINING.**

4 Section 1050 of the National Defense Authorization  
5 Act for Fiscal Year 2026 (Public Law 119–60; 10 U.S.C.  
6 4172 note) is amended—

7 (1) by striking “Beginning on” and inserting  
8 the following:

9 “(a) PROHIBITION.—Beginning on”;

10 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
11 section:

12 “(b) WAIVER.—The Secretary of Defense may waive  
13 the prohibition under subsection (a) with respect to the  
14 special operations forces (as identified in section 167(j)  
15 of title 10, United States Code) if the Secretary deter-  
16 mines such prohibition, including the requirement for the  
17 use of alternate methods under paragraph (2) of such sub-  
18 section, would degrade the readiness of special operations  
19 forces medics with respect to the ability to manage the  
20 lethal effects of blast injuries.”.

1 **SEC. 1044.[Log 85288] IMPLEMENTATION OF COGNITIVE**  
2 **PERFORMANCE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM**  
3 **FOR SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES.**

4 (a) IMPLEMENTATION.—Not later than 90 days after  
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commander of  
6 the United States Special Operations Command shall im-  
7 plement a cognitive performance enhancement program to  
8 enhance cognitive performance metrics across the special  
9 operations forces. The program shall be known as the  
10 “Cognitive Performance Enhancement Program”, and the  
11 Commander shall include the program in the strategy ti-  
12 tled “Comprehensive Strategy for Special Operations  
13 Warfighter Brain Health”.

14 (b) OBJECTIVES.—The Commander shall ensure that  
15 the Cognitive Performance Enhancement Program—

16 (1) improves readiness, resilience, and recovery,  
17 using evidence-based holistic and proactive high-per-  
18 formance brain training that has a validated ability  
19 to scale cost-effectively across the special operations  
20 forces enterprise;

21 (2) clearly distinguishes cognitive performance  
22 enhancement from brain decline and injuries, includ-  
23 ing with respect to traumatic brain injury, chronic  
24 traumatic encephalopathy, and mental health, in-  
25 cluding post-traumatic stress disorder;

1           (3) increases awareness of cognitive perform-  
2           ance as a critical differentiator that can help ensure  
3           special operations forces remains the most lethal, de-  
4           cisive irregular warfare force of the United States;  
5           and

6           (4) ensures baseline cognitive performance as-  
7           sessments, training, and enhancement are included  
8           as an essential element of training and assessment  
9           throughout the career of a member of the Armed  
10          Forces in the special operations forces in a similar  
11          manner to other physical training and performance  
12          metrics.

13          (c) BRIEFING.—Not later than one year after the  
14          date on which the Commander commences the implemen-  
15          tation of the Cognitive Performance Enhancement Pro-  
16          gram, the Commander shall provide to the Committees on  
17          Armed Services of the House of Representatives and the  
18          Senate a briefing that includes—

19               (1) an assessment of cognitive performance en-  
20               hancement tools used under the Program and  
21               whether the tools qualitatively improved readiness,  
22               resilience, and recovery for members of the Armed  
23               Forces in the special operations forces;

1           (2) an assessment of how enhanced cognitive  
2           performance contributes to operational advantages  
3           to the special operations forces; and

4           (3) any recommendations with respect to the  
5           feasibility of implementing cognitive enhancement  
6           assessment and training programs across the con-  
7           ventional force.

1 **SEC. 1047.[Log 85289] LIMITATION ON AVAILABILITY OF**  
2 **FUNDS FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES OF THE OF-**  
3 **FICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.**

4 Of the funds authorized to be appropriated by this  
5 Act or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2027 for  
6 operation and maintenance, defense-wide, and available  
7 for the Office of the Secretary of Defense for travel ex-  
8 penses, not more than 75 percent may be obligated or ex-  
9 pended until the Secretary of Defense submits to the con-  
10 gressional defense committees a certification that the De-  
11 partment of Defense is compliant with the requirements  
12 of section 1067 of the National Defense Authorization Act  
13 for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118–159; 138 Stat.  
14 2066), including—

15 (1) a written statement that a copy of each exe-  
16 cute order required to be submitted to the congres-  
17 sional defense committees under subsection (c) of  
18 such section has been so submitted; and

19 (2) a description of the mechanism established  
20 to facilitate the provision to the congressional de-  
21 fense committees of all future briefings required  
22 under subsection (a) of such section, and the compli-  
23 ance with the disclosure and notice requirements  
24 under subsection (c) of such section, within the  
25 timeframes required by such section.

1 **SEC. 1072.[Log 84920] UBIQUITOUS TECHNICAL SURVEIL-**  
2 **LANCE AND DIGITAL FORCE PROTECTION.**

3 (a) UBIQUITOUS TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE FUNC-  
4 TIONS.—

5 (1) RESPONSIBILITY.—Not later than April 1,  
6 2027, the Secretary of Defense shall designate the  
7 head of an organization of the Department of De-  
8 fense who shall be responsible for—

9 (A) coordinating and directing the identi-  
10 fication of vulnerabilities with respect to ubiq-  
11 uitous technical surveillance;

12 (B) developing a plan and strategy for re-  
13 search, development, and procurement of secure  
14 communications and obfuscation technologies;  
15 and

16 (C) developing ubiquitous technical surveil-  
17 lance training and techniques to enhance digital  
18 force protection.

19 (2) PROGRAM OF RECORD.—Not later than one  
20 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
21 Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congres-  
22 sional defense committees a plan to establish a pro-  
23 gram of record to meet counter-ubiquitous technical  
24 surveillance and digital force protection needs across  
25 the Department of Defense.

1 (b) REPORT.—Not later than December 1, 2027, the  
2 Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional de-  
3 fense committees a report that includes—

4 (1) the plan and strategy developed pursuant to  
5 subsection (a)(1)(B); and

6 (2) the identification of the organization of the  
7 Department of Defense that has been designated  
8 under subsection (a)(1).

9 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) The term “digital force protection” means  
11 the policies, tools, and practices used to protect mili-  
12 tary personnel, operations, and critical assets from  
13 adversarial exploitation of the commercial digital  
14 surveillance economy, associated commercial data,  
15 and digital footprints.

16 (2) The term “ubiquitous technical surveil-  
17 lance” means persistent, networked, or commer-  
18 cially-enabled technical means used to detect, iden-  
19 tify, track, exploit, or monitor personnel, operations,  
20 equipment, or digital activities.

1           **Subtitle A—Assistance and**  
2                           **Training**

3   **SEC. 1201. [LOG 85563] MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY FOR**  
4                           **SUPPORT OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS FOR IR-**  
5                           **REGULAR WARFARE.**

6           Section 127d(a) of title 10, United States Code, is  
7 amended by striking “\$20,000,000” and inserting  
8 “\$50,000,000”.

1 **SEC. 1202. [LOG 85140] REVIEW OF EXECUTION OF PRO-**  
2 **GRAMS TO BUILD PARTNER CAPACITY.**

3 Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment  
4 of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States  
5 shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the  
6 House of Representatives and the Senate, the Committee  
7 on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, and  
8 the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a re-  
9 port containing a review of the execution by the Depart-  
10 ment of Defense of programs conducted pursuant to sec-  
11 tion 333 of title 10, United States Code. The review shall  
12 include, with respect to such programs, the following in-  
13 formation:

14 (1) The extent to which the Department of De-  
15 fense has defined measurable timelines and goals  
16 with targets for such programs.

17 (2) The extent to which program execution has  
18 been timely and programs have achieved their stated  
19 goals.

20 (3) Challenges affecting the outcomes of such  
21 programs.

22 (4) Any other matters the Comptroller General  
23 of the United States determines relevant.

1 **SEC. 1203. [LOG 85072] ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTNERSHIP**  
2 **PROGRAMS ON MILITARY TRAUMA CARE AND**  
3 **RESEARCH BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES**  
4 **AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.**

5 (a) PARTNERSHIPS.—The Secretary of Defense, in  
6 consultation with the Secretary of State, may establish a  
7 joint education and training program on military trauma  
8 care and research with appropriate personnel of the mili-  
9 tary forces of one or more foreign countries.

10 (b) ELEMENTS.—The Secretary may include in each  
11 joint education and training program on military trauma  
12 care and research under subsection (a) the following:

13 (1) The sharing of relevant lessons learned in  
14 combat casualty care derived from prior conflicts.

15 (2) The conduct of joint conferences, symposia,  
16 and professional exchange programs involving mili-  
17 tary medical professionals from the United States  
18 and the foreign countries participating in the pro-  
19 gram.

20 (3) Collaboration through structured knowledge  
21 exchanges on matters relating to health policy,  
22 health administration, and medical logistics, includ-  
23 ing with respect to medical supplies and equipment.

24 (4) The conduct of joint research and develop-  
25 ment initiatives addressing the health effects of new  
26 and emerging weapons and methods of warfare.

1           (5) Capacity-building programs to support the  
2           development, sustainment, and modernization of  
3           military trauma care systems and programs.

4           (6) Coordination, through the Joint Trauma  
5           System of the Defense Health Agency, of trauma  
6           care doctrine, data collection, performance improve-  
7           ment, and clinical best practices with the Armed  
8           Forces of the United States and the military medical  
9           services of the foreign countries participating in the  
10          program.

11          (7) The provision of training to the military  
12          forces of such foreign countries with respect to—

13                (A) military trauma care;

14                (B) combat wound infection; and

15                (C) post-traumatic stress disorder and sui-  
16                cide prevention relating to the treatment of  
17                military trauma care.

18          (c) USE OF AUTHORITIES.—In carrying out the joint  
19          education and training program on military trauma care  
20          and research under subsection (a), the Secretary of De-  
21          fense may use the authorities under chapter 16 of title  
22          10, United States Code, and other applicable statutory au-  
23          thorities available to the Secretary.

1 **SEC. 1242. [LOG 84997] MODIFICATION OF TAIWAN SECU-**  
2 **RITY COOPERATION INITIATIVE.**

3 Subsection (d) of section 1323 of the Servicemember  
4 Quality of Life Improvement and National Defense Au-  
5 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118-  
6 159) is amended by adding at the end the following:

7 “(3) FISCAL YEAR 2027.—Of the amounts au-  
8 thorized to be appropriated for fiscal year 2027 for  
9 the Department of Defense, not more than  
10 \$1,000,000,000 may be made available for the pur-  
11 poses of subsection (a).”.

1           **Subtitle F—Other Matters**

2   **SEC. 1251. [LOG 85142] REPEAL OF TEMPORARY AUTHOR-**  
3                   **ITY TO PROVIDE TRAINING TO MILITARY**  
4                   **FORCES OR NATIONAL SECURITY FORCES OF**  
5                   **COSTA RICA AND PANAMA.**

6           Section 1209 of the National Defense Authorization  
7   Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118–159; 10 U.S.C.  
8   321 note) is repealed.

1     **Subtitle B—Defense Intelligence**  
2     **and Intelligence-Related Activities**

3     **SEC. 1611.[Log 84904] EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS ACROSS**  
4                   **FISCAL YEARS FOR DEPARTMENT OF DE-**  
5                   **FENSE INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTERINTEL-**  
6                   **LIGENCE ACTIVITIES.**

7     Section 429a of title 10, United States Code, is  
8 amended—

9           (1) in subsection (a), by striking “subsections  
10       (b) and (c)” and inserting “subsections (b) and (d)”;

11          (2) by redesignating subsections (c) through (g)  
12       as subsections (d) through (h), respectively;

13          (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
14       lowing new subsection:

15       “(c) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR PROGRAMS  
16 ACROSS FISCAL YEARS.—(1) With respect to fiscal year  
17 2027 and any subsequent fiscal year, not more than 10  
18 percent of the amounts described in paragraph (2) may  
19 be used for programs under subsection (a) that begin in  
20 such fiscal year and end not later than the end of the sec-  
21 ond fiscal year thereafter.

22       “(2) The amounts described in this paragraph are  
23 amounts—

1           “(A) made available in fiscal year 2027 or any  
2           subsequent fiscal year to carry out the authority in  
3           subsection (a); and

4           “(B) that the Secretary may expend without  
5           making a notification pursuant to the limitation in  
6           subsection (b).”; and

7           (4) in subsection (e), as so redesignated—

8           (A) by striking “Not later” and inserting  
9           “(1) Not later”;

10          (B) by striking “section (c)” and inserting  
11          “subsection (d)”; and

12          (C) by adding at the end the following new  
13          paragraph:

14          “(2) The Secretary shall include in each report under  
15          paragraph (1) a separate portion detailing how the Sec-  
16          retary carried out subsection (c) during the fiscal year cov-  
17          ered by the report with respect to the availability of funds  
18          for programs in more than one fiscal year, including—

19               “(A) an explanation for carrying out such sub-  
20               section for such programs and the purpose of such  
21               programs;

22               “(B) the balance of such funds available for  
23               such programs following the first fiscal year in  
24               which funds were expended, by activity and by fiscal  
25               year; and

1 “(C) the program elements of such programs.”.

1 **SEC. 1612.**[Log 85352] **PERMANENT AUTHORITY FOR MILI-**  
2 **TARY INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION AND**  
3 **ANALYSIS PARTNERSHIPS.**

4 (a) **PERMANENT AUTHORITY.**—Section 1621 of the  
5 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024  
6 (Public Law 118–31; 10 U.S.C. 421 note prec.) is amend-  
7 ed—

8 (1) in subsection (b), by striking “for four  
9 years”;

10 (2) by striking subsection (c); and

11 (3) by redesignating subsection (d) as sub-  
12 section (c).

13 (b) **TRANSFER.**—Section 1621 of the National De-  
14 fense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 (Public Law  
15 118–31; 10 U.S.C. 421 note prec.) is—

16 (1) transferred to chapter 21 of title 10, United  
17 States Code;

18 (2) inserted after section 421; and

19 (3) redesignated as section 421a.

20 (c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Section 421a of  
21 title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (b),  
22 is amended—

23 (1) in the enumerator, by striking “SEC.” and  
24 inserting “§”;

25 (2) in the section heading—

26 (A) by striking the period at the end; and

1 (B) by conforming the typeface and  
2 typestyle, including capitalization, to the type-  
3 face and typestyle as used in the section head-  
4 ing of section 421 of such title; and

5 (3) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) by striking each heading that is not a  
7 subsection heading; and

8 (B) by conforming the margins to the mar-  
9 gins used in section 426(a) of such title, includ-  
10 ing with respect to the use of inline paragraphs  
11 and subparagraphs.

1 **SEC. 1613.[Log 84917] REPEAL OF CERTAIN REPORTING**  
2 **AND BRIEFING REQUIREMENTS.**

3 (a) STRATEGY AND PLAN TO IMPLEMENT CERTAIN  
4 DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE REFORMS.—Section 1622 of  
5 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year  
6 2022 (Public Law 117–81; 10 U.S.C. 421 note prec.) is  
7 repealed.

8 (b) BRIEFING ON DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PLAN  
9 TO DETER AND COUNTER ADVERSARIES IN THE INFOR-  
10 MATION ENVIRONMENT.—Section 1560 of the James M.  
11 Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year  
12 2023 (Public Law 117–263; 136 Stat. 2927) is repealed.

1 **SEC. 1614.[Log 84903] MODIFICATION OF AUTHORITY OF**  
2 **ARMY COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AGENTS TO**  
3 **EXECUTE WARRANTS AND MAKE ARRESTS.**

4 Section 7377(b)(2) of title 10, United States Code,  
5 is amended by striking “during the four-year period begin-  
6 ning on the date of the enactment of the National Defense  
7 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025,”.

1 **SEC. 1615.[Log 84933] PERIODIC STRATEGY AND ASSESS-**  
2 **MENT OF INTELLIGENCE, SURVEILLANCE,**  
3 **AND RECONNAISSANCE CAPABILITIES TO**  
4 **MEET INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION PRIOR-**  
5 **ITIES.**

6 Chapter 21 of title 10, United States Code, is amend-  
7 ed by inserting after section 426 the following new section:

8 **“§ 426a. Periodic strategy and assessment of intel-**  
9 **ligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance**  
10 **capabilities to meet intelligence collec-**  
11 **tion priorities**

12 “(a) BIENNIAL REPORTS.—Not later than December  
13 31, 2027, and every two years thereafter until December  
14 31, 2037, the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence  
15 and Security shall submit to the congressional defense  
16 committees and the congressional intelligence committees  
17 a report containing—

18 “(1) an assessment of the intelligence, surveil-  
19 lance, and reconnaissance capabilities of the Depart-  
20 ment of Defense as of the date of the report; and

21 “(2) a strategy to improve such capabilities to  
22 support the intelligence requirements of the Depart-  
23 ment.

24 “(b) MATTERS INCLUDED.—The Under Secretary of  
25 Defense for Intelligence and Security shall ensure that  
26 each report under subsection (a) includes the following:

1           “(1) With respect to the assessment under  
2 paragraph (1) of such subsection—

3           “(A) a review of all spaceborne, airborne,  
4 surface, and subsurface intelligence, surveil-  
5 lance, and reconnaissance activities (manned  
6 and unmanned);

7           “(B) an assessment of the capacity and ca-  
8 pability to meet intelligence collection require-  
9 ments, including with respect to the require-  
10 ments of the commanders of the geographic  
11 combatant commands;

12           “(C) an assessment of the risk and secu-  
13 rity threats caused by inadequate capacity or  
14 capability to meet intelligence collection require-  
15 ments; and

16           “(D) a plan to mitigate such risk.

17           “(2) With respect to the strategy under para-  
18 graph (2) of such subsection—

19           “(A) an assessment of the projected intel-  
20 ligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance capa-  
21 bilities and whether such capabilities will meet  
22 future intelligence collection requirements;

23           “(B) recommendations to improve collec-  
24 tion postures in the near-, mid-, and long-term

1 to meet future intelligence collection require-  
2 ments;

3 “(C) an assessment of the risk associated  
4 with an inability to meet future intelligence col-  
5 lection requirements; and

6 “(D) a plan to mitigate such risk.

7 “(3) Any other matters the Under Secretary de-  
8 termines necessary.

9 “(c) COORDINATION AND CONSULTATION.—The  
10 Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security  
11 shall develop each report under subsection (a)—

12 “(1) in coordination with the heads of the com-  
13 ponents of the Department of Defense that are ele-  
14 ments of the intelligence community, the com-  
15 manders of the geographic combatant commands,  
16 and the Commander of the United States Special  
17 Operations Command; and

18 “(2) in consultation with the service acquisition  
19 executives of the military departments.

20 “(d) FORM.—Each report under subsection (a) shall  
21 be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classi-  
22 fied annex.

23 “(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the terms ‘con-  
24 gressional intelligence committees’ and ‘intelligence com-  
25 munity’ have the meanings given those terms in section

1 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C.  
2 3003).”.

1                   **Subtitle E—Other Matters**

2   **SEC. 1651.[Log 84906] BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS ON CROSS-**  
3                   **FUNCTIONAL TEAM FOR ANOMALOUS**  
4                   **HEALTH INCIDENTS.**

5           (a) BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS.—Subsection (e) of  
6 section 910 of the National Defense Authorization Act for  
7 Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–81; 10 U.S.C. 111  
8 note) is amended to read as follows:

9           “(e) UPDATES.—(1) The Secretary shall provide to  
10 the appropriate congressional committees a briefing con-  
11 taining updates on the activities carried out by the cross-  
12 functional team during the period covered by the briefing  
13 as follows:

14                   “(A) On a quarterly basis during the period be-  
15 ginning January 1, 2027, and ending December 31,  
16 2028.

17                   “(B) On a semiannual basis during the period  
18 beginning January 1, 2029, and ending December  
19 31, 2030.

20           “(2) On an annual basis during the period beginning  
21 January 1, 2027, and ending December 31, 2030, the Sec-  
22 retary shall submit to the appropriate congressional com-  
23 mittees a report on the activities carried out by the cross-  
24 functional team during the period covered by the report.”.

1           (b) TRANSFER.—Section 910 of the National Defense  
2 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (Public Law 117–  
3 81; 10 U.S.C. 111 note) is—

4           (1) transferred to chapter 21 of title 10, United  
5 States Code;

6           (2) inserted after section 430e; and

7           (3) redesignated as section 430f.

8           (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 430f of  
9 title 10, United States Code, as added by subsection (b),  
10 is amended—

11           (1) in the enumerator, by striking “SEC.” and  
12 inserting “§”;

13           (2) in the section heading—

14           (A) by striking the period at the end; and

15           (B) by conforming the typeface and  
16 typestyle, including capitalization, to the type-  
17 face and typestyle as used in the section head-  
18 ing of section 430e of such title; and

19           (3) in subsection (a), by striking “title 10,  
20 United States Code” and inserting “this title”.

# **DIRECTIVE REPORT LANGUAGE**

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## **DIVISION A—DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATIONS**

### **TITLE X—GENERAL PROVISIONS**

#### **ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST**

Department of Defense Support for Recovery of United States Nationals Abroad

The committee notes the unfortunate and continued detention, disappearance, or unresolved status of United States nationals throughout the world, particularly in nonpermissive environments. These include cases involving deceased individuals whose remains have not been recovered, individuals who are unlawfully detained, and individuals whose status remains unresolved. The committee recognizes the critical role of the Department of Defense in supporting interagency efforts led by the Department of State pursuant to the Robert Levinson Hostage Recovery and Hostage-Taking Accountability Act (22 U.S.C. 1741 et seq.). The committee notes the Department's role in the Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell

(HRFC) and the expertise provided in planning and execution if the Department is directed to execute a hostage or personnel recovery of U.S. nationals abroad. The committee believes the Department's role in supporting hostage recovery activities abroad should be integrated, as appropriate, into contingency planning and operational planning, force posture considerations, and broader theater planning. The committee notes the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Special Operations and Low Intensity Conflict (ASD(SOLIC)) is the policy lead for personnel recovery to include hostage rescue and U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) is the operational lead for executing hostage rescue missions abroad within the Department of Defense. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 1, 2026, on:

(1) how ASD(SOLIC)'s and USSOCOM's support to the HRFC informs contingency planning for rescue or recovery of U.S. nationals abroad;

(2) how the Geographic Combatant Commands incorporate rescue or recovery of U.S. nationals abroad into operational plans and what impact this contingency mission may have on force requirements;

(3) what criteria must be met for the Department to recommend using military assets to execute a rescue or personnel recovery of detained U.S. nationals abroad, including how such criteria differ when executing a mission in areas where the U.S. does not maintain a permanent or temporary military infrastructure;

(4) any potential statutory authorities, policy constraints, intelligence limitations, or resource gaps affecting the Department's ability to support such efforts, including recommendations to address any potential gaps; and

(5) a classified portion detailing Department of Defense support equities related to the cases of deceased U.S. nationals whose remains have not been recovered, as well as cases involving U.S. nationals who are wrongfully detained, missing, or of unresolved status.

#### Resourcing Requirements to Sustain Special Operations Forces Tactical Geospatial Intelligence Access

The committee recognizes that U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) is required to develop and employ Special Operations Forces (SOF) to conduct global special operations and activities as part of the Joint Force. SOF routinely operate in denied, degraded, intermittent, and low bandwidth (DDIL) environments and require persistent access to geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) to visualize and share a common operational picture at the tactical edge. The committee notes that the Tactical Assault Kit (TAK) is a foundational capability for SOF operators and that unfettered access to precision GEOINT is essential for planning, rehearsal, mission execution, and maintaining a shared understanding of the battlespace. Commercial systems, managed under the auspices of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and fully compatible with TAK devices, provide SOF with critical DDIL resilient access to curated GEOINT. These systems have been

widely adopted across all SOF components, serve as USSOCOM's de facto enterprise GEOINT distribution architecture, and are designed for use with coalition partners.

However, the committee is concerned that USSOCOM has not resourced the capacity to procure sufficient commercial system licenses to meet validated SOF requirements, leading to many USSOCOM users being unsupported. Therefore, the committee directs the Commander of U.S. Special Operations Command to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 1, 2026, on a plan to ensure SOF operators have access to GEOINT for planning and execution of missions. The briefing shall include:

- (1) an assessment of current commercial solution licensing allocations, associated demand signals, and if there were unsatisfied user requests across all SOF components for fiscal years 2024 through 2026, what was that number;
- (2) an analysis of any potential operational and readiness impacts resulting from insufficient licensing capacity, including effects, if any, on mission planning, training, coalition interoperability, and operations in DDIL environments;
- (3) a comprehensive plan for sustaining and expanding USSOCOM's GEOINT enterprise distribution architecture, through commercial solutions, to meet current and projected SOF requirements; and
- (4) an identification of funding, acquisition, or policy limitations that prevent USSOCOM from fully resourcing required licenses.

### Will to Fight

The committee is aware that U.S. Special Operations Forces routinely conduct advise, assist, and accompany missions, as well as training activities, with foreign partner forces across multiple theaters. These engagements generate significant operational and tactical observations, assessments, and lessons learned, including insights related to partner force capability, cohesion, leadership, military will to fight, and national will to fight.

The committee is concerned that information generated by special operations forces in the field on military will to fight at the unit level may be inconsistently reported, fragmented across commands and systems, and not readily accessible across the Department of Defense. The committee further notes that gaps in the visibility and accessibility of such information may hinder the Department's ability to accurately assess partner force reliability at the operational and tactical level.

Accordingly, the committee directs the Commander, U.S. Special Operations Command, in coordination with the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, to submit a report to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 4, 2026, that describes current practices for reporting, transmitting, storing, and accessing information derived from special operations forces engagements with partner forces. At a minimum, the report shall include:

(1) a description of how special operations forces units in the field document and report on missions, training activities, and engagements with partner forces, over a longitudinal period, including the types of reports generated;

(2) an identification of the systems, platforms, or databases into which such information is submitted, including any service-specific, combatant command, or joint systems;

(3) an assessment of the extent to which such information is standardized across units, theaters, and services;

(4) a description of which entities within the Department of Defense have access to such information, and under what conditions;

(5) an assessment of the ability of users to search, query, and analyze such information across systems, including any limitations on interoperability, discoverability, or usability;

(6) an identification of any gaps, redundancies, or barriers that limit the effective use of such information for operational planning, force design, security cooperation, or risk assessment;

(7) any recommendations to improve the consistency, accessibility, and utility of such reporting, including options for greater standardization or centralization, to include the feasibility of using a centralized repository if one does not already exist; and

(8) any other matters the Commander or Director determines relevant.

The committee encourages the Commander to include perspectives from operational units, including special operations forces personnel with recent field experience, regarding the usability and effectiveness of current reporting mechanisms.

## TITLE XII—MATTERS RELATING TO FOREIGN NATIONS

### ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

#### Department of Defense Authorities Subject to Foreign Assistance Review

On January 20, 2025, the President ordered that no foreign assistance be disbursed in a manner that is not fully aligned with the foreign policy of the President and directed reviews of each foreign assistance program. The responsible department and agency heads were further directed to make determinations on whether to continue, modify, or cease each foreign assistance program based upon the review recommendations. The committee is aware that the Department of Defense completed the foreign assistance review (FAR) in accordance with the President's order. The Department has not, however, provided to the committee requested information regarding the applicable program authorities that were reviewed for the purposes of the FAR. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to submit a report to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 1, 2026, consisting of the list of programs, assistance, and

program authorities, identified by statute or code, which were reviewed for the purposes of the FAR. Further, the report shall describe the length of time, if any, that such programs, assistance, and program authorities were paused, and include a list of programs or assistance that were terminated as a result of the FAR.

## TITLE XVI—SPACE ACTIVITIES, STRATEGIC PROGRAMS, AND INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

### ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

#### INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

##### Common Intelligence Feed

The committee supports the work being done by the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) to revamp the Common Intelligence Picture, now deemed the Common Intelligence Feed. The committee also appreciates that, through the Common Intelligence Picture Joint Program Management Office (CIP-JPMO), DIA has been engaging with various elements within the Department of Defense and industry to discuss goals, challenges, and objectives for the future of the Common Intelligence Feed. Although the committee is encouraged by the progress the CIP-JPMO has made so far, the committee understands that much work remains to be done.

Therefore, the committee directs the Director of DIA to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than January 31, 2027, on the progress made by the CIP-JPMO toward delivering a modernized Common Intelligence Feed. The briefing shall include updates on governance, training standards, information sharing, and data standards.

##### Foreign Languages Program

Foreign language capabilities, and the development of such capabilities, are critical to ensuring the Defense Intelligence Enterprise can fully support Department of Defense intelligence requirements and activities. The committee recognizes the importance of the Foreign Languages Program that is jointly carried out by the Secretary of Defense and the Director of National Intelligence, as required in section 3201 of title 50, United States Code. The purpose of this program is to ensure members of the intelligence community have the advanced foreign language skills necessary to carry out their duties, and the Defense Intelligence Enterprise has benefitted from it.

However, the committee is concerned about the long-term viability of this program with respect to the Defense Intelligence Enterprise. The committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, in coordination with other relevant representatives from the Department of Defense, to submit a report

to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than March 31, 2027, on the status of the Foreign Languages Program as it pertains to the Defense Intelligence Enterprise. The report shall be in unclassified form but may include a classified annex. The report shall include:

(1) a description of how the Department currently utilizes the Foreign Languages Program to further develop foreign language capabilities within the Defense Intelligence Enterprise;

(2) an overview of how the Department works with the Office of the Director of National Intelligence to ensure Defense Intelligence Enterprise personnel have access to the program;

(3) information about how many Defense Intelligence Enterprise personnel qualify for participation in the program compared to how many personnel can enroll;

(4) recommendations for strengthening the program for the Defense Intelligence Enterprise; and

(5) anything else the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security deems relevant.

#### Intelligence Support at the Tactical Edge

The committee recognizes that rapid changes in the battlefield environment necessitate advancing warfighting capabilities at speed and scale. As the Department of Defense pursues advancements in intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities, it must also work to ensure the policies governing the generation and dissemination of actionable intelligence at the tactical edge are aligned.

Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than February 28, 2027, on how each of the military services are working to ensure forward-deployed intelligence elements can generate and disseminate intelligence out at the tactical edge, including in a denied, disrupted, intermittent, and limited environment. The briefing shall include an assessment of current policies and oversight mechanisms and recommendations, if necessary, to enable timely intelligence support.

#### Principal Staff Assistant for Tradecraft

The committee recognizes that the operating environment for the Department of Defense to conduct its intelligence, intelligence-related, and sensitive activities is increasingly difficult. The committee further recognizes that, in addition to providing capabilities and training, robust oversight, clear guidance, and high standards help ensure mission success. The Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security was designated as the Principal Staff Assistant for Tradecraft in Department of Defense Directive 5240.01, effective as of September 27, 2024. The committee supports this designation but is concerned that further

guidance outlining the responsibilities of the Principal Staff Assistant for Tradecraft has not yet been developed.

Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 15, 2026, on progress made toward defining the Principal Staff Assistant for Tradecraft role and publishing further guidance, as necessary. The briefing shall also include a description of how this role can help facilitate improved oversight of intelligence, intelligence-related, and sensitive activities.

#### Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility Accreditation Delays

The committee has expressed its longstanding support for Department of Defense development of shared classified commercial infrastructure to better enable collaboration between the Department and the Defense Industrial Base and academia. Efforts such as the pilot program established in section 874 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118-159) aim to establish such shared classified spaces, but the committee is increasingly concerned about the slow accreditation process. Without accreditation, the benefits of these facilities cannot be fully realized.

Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security, in coordination with the Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than January 31, 2027, on the Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) certification and accreditation process. The briefing shall cover, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) an overview of the current accreditation process, including the process for certifying special access program facilities;
- (2) a detailed overview of how the Department provides resources, guidance, and points of contact throughout the certification process for Service cognizant security authorities or Department of Defense Component senior intelligence officers or their designee;
- (3) a review of Department of Defense SCIFs currently undergoing the physical accreditation process that have been assigned as SCIF ID, in accordance with Department of Defense Manual 5105.21-V2;
- (4) the number of facilities currently waiting for acceptance of the accreditation package; and
- (5) recommendations to accelerate accreditation approval timelines.

#### Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility Pilot Program Update

The committee reiterates its support for expanded access to shared classified facilities and networks to support the Defense Industrial Base, including qualified small businesses, and academia. Section 874 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2025 (Public Law 118-159) required the

Department of Defense to establish a pilot program for access to shared classified commercial infrastructure, including access to accredited sensitive compartmented information facilities (SCIFs) and special access program facilities (SAPFs), to increase opportunities for the Defense Industrial Base and academia.

The committee is pleased to learn that the pilot program is underway but seeks to learn more about the progress made to date. Therefore, the committee directs the Under Secretary of Defense for Intelligence and Security to provide an unclassified briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than December 1, 2026, on the status of the pilot program required by section 874 of Public Law 118-159, lessons learned to date, and a road map for the duration of the pilot program.

## OTHER MATTERS

### Enhancing Preparedness for Biological Threats to the Warfighter

The committee is concerned about biological threats, particularly anthrax, which remains the key biological agent threat posed by malign actors to servicemembers. The committee recognizes the need for a robust stockpile of medical countermeasures to counter the effects of anthrax exposure, including both antitoxins for post-exposure treatment and prophylactic measures for prevention.

Investing in the sustainable stockpiling of anthrax countermeasures provides protection for warfighters and civilians while maintaining deterrence capabilities against biological threats. Therefore, the committee directs the Secretary of Defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services not later than February 1, 2027, on:

- (1) current status of anthrax medical countermeasure stockpiles within the Department of Defense;
- (2) strategic implementation plans to ensure adequate stockpiling, sustainability, and forward-deployment of anthrax countermeasures;
- (3) coordination mechanisms with interagency partners to maintain required stockpile levels;
- (4) plans for replenishment of current stocks to meet requirements; and
- (5) steps being taken to preserve domestic production capacity for anthrax medical countermeasures.