

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4720

To amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 17, 2019

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR**
4 **SPACE.**

5 (a) ESTABLISHMENT OF POSITION.—Section 138(b)
6 of title 10, United States Code, is amended by adding at
7 the end the following new paragraph:

8 “(5) One of the Assistant Secretaries is the Assistant
9 Secretary of Defense for Space. The Assistant Secretary
10 shall have as the Assistant Secretary’s principal duty the

1 overall supervision (including oversight of policy and re-
2 sources) of space activities of the Department of Defense.
3 The Assistant Secretary is the principal civilian adviser
4 to the Secretary of Defense on space operations and space
5 conflict matters and (after the Secretary and the Deputy
6 Secretary of Defense) is the principal space official within
7 the senior management of the Department of Defense.
8 Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Sec-
9 retary, the Assistant Secretary shall do the following:

10 “(A) Exercise authority, direction, and control
11 of all space administrative matters relating to the
12 organization, training, and equipping of space
13 forces.

14 “(B) Assist the Secretary in the development
15 and supervision of policy, program planning and exe-
16 cution, and allocation and use of resources for the
17 activities of the Department of Defense for the fol-
18 lowing:

19 “(i) Space operations, defending national
20 security assets in space, and the other space ac-
21 tivities of the Department.

22 “(ii) Integration of the activities of the De-
23 partment to most efficiently and effectively pro-
24 vide for space-related activities.

1 “(C) Perform such additional duties as the Sec-
2 retary may prescribe.”.

3 (b) PLAN ON ACQUISITION SYSTEM FOR DEFENSE
4 SPACE RESOURCES.—

5 (1) PLAN REQUIRED.—Not later than 180 days
6 after the date of the appointment, by and with the
7 advice and consent of the Senate, of the first Assist-
8 ant Secretary of Defense for Space appointed after
9 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant
10 Secretary of Defense for Space shall submit to the
11 congressional defense committees a plan to establish
12 a separate, alternative acquisition system for defense
13 space resources, including for acquisitions with re-
14 spect to space vehicles, ground segments relating to
15 such vehicles, and satellite terminals.

16 (2) SCOPE.—The plan required by paragraph
17 (1) shall cover acquisitions of defense space re-
18 sources for the Department of Defense, other than
19 resources for the National Reconnaissance Office
20 and other elements of the Department that are ele-
21 ments of the intelligence community (as defined in
22 section 3 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50
23 U.S.C. 3003)).

24 (3) ELEMENTS.—The plan required by para-
25 graph (1) shall include recommendations on whether

1 the alternative acquisition system covered by the
2 plan should use the Joint Capabilities Integration
3 and Development System process or another require-
4 ments process that is developed by the Assistant
5 Secretary for purposes of the plan.

6 (4) CONGRESSIONAL DEFENSE COMMITTEES
7 DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “congres-
8 sional defense committees” has the meaning given
9 that term in section 101(a)(16) of title 10, United
10 States Code.

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