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SECTION 809 PANEL

Daily Media Clips

June 29, 2018

The Section 809 Panel is a congressionally mandated panel designed to be a catalyst that restores agility and simplicity to defense acquisition through bold and effective recommendations.

Good morning! We found several articles that you may be interested in.

To streamline acquisitions, 809 Panel presses DoD to adopt portfolio management

June 29, 2018 | Jared Serbu

The congressionally-mandated panel in charge of finding ways to streamline the Defense acquisition system called Thursday for dramatic changes in how the Defense Department organizes itself to define requirements for weapons systems and manage its procurement budgets, saying DoD must move to a "portfolio-centric" approach to procuring military equipment.

In the second volume of its report to Congress, the Section 809 Panel said the Pentagon's current decision making and incentive structures are far too focused on individual weapons programs, not on broader portfolios of capabilities.

In a related problem, the panel said the three broader communities within DoD that are in charge of deciding what to buy, prioritizing funding for those systems, and actually conducting procurements, are too siloed to make the sorts of quick, agile decisions needed to deliver military capabilities that are relevant to the modern battlefield.

"The highly centralized management framework of each support system fosters inconsistent accountability and responsibility," the panel wrote. "Decision-making processes that focus on individual programs instead of enterprise capabilities as a whole cultivate a system bereft of flexibility, speed, and innovation."

Read more HERE.

Section 809 Panel Proposes Major Restructuring of Acquisition Programs

June 28, 2018 | Jon Harper

An influential advisory group created to help streamline the Pentagon's cumbersome acquisition system is calling for a major structural shift in the way that the department manages its projects.

The Section 809 Panel — established by Congress in the fiscal year 2016 National Defense Authorization Act — released a new report June 28 that proposes a new "enterprise capability portfolio management" structure to improve how the Pentagon acquires technology.

In the "Report of the Advisory Panel on Streamlining and Codifying Acquisition Regulations: Vol. 2," the advisory group said: "The defense acquisition system requires greater speed and ability to be responsive in a dynamic environment. Changing from a program-centric management structure to a

portfolio management structure would enable timely delivery of integrated capabilities."

A number of other benefits would accrue from such a shift, the panel said, including a tighter alignment of acquisition, requirements and budget processes, greater flexibility and "potentially increased warfighter capability."

While many advisory groups in Washington issue reports and recommendations that go nowhere, the Section 809 Panel has already demonstrated that its opinions carry weight. Many of its recommendations from previous reports have already made their way into the fiscal year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act, and into the House and Senate versions of the 2019 NDAA, noted Shayne Martin, director of external affairs for the panel. They include changes to the Pentagon's commercial buying, small business strategy, audit and compliance practices, agile software development and the repeal of obsolete reporting requirement, he said in a statement.

"The ... Vol. 2 report to Congress contains a number of recommendations that, if adopted, will take significant steps to build a defense acquisition system that is more flexible and responsive to the needs of the warfighter," Martin said.

Read more HERE.

Other Articles of Interest

Joseph Petrillo: Defense Logistics Agency loses bid protest for shielding contract criteria [Audio]
June 29, 2018 | Federal Drive

Don't Fear the Audit! Calculated Risk and Agile Accountability in the Sea Services
June 28, 2018 | Under Secretary of the Navy, Thomas B. Modly

OMB Sharpens Guidance for Improving Programs and Curbing Improper Payments
June 28, 2018 | Charles S. Clark

Despite recent accidents, Air Force says readiness is on the rise
June 28, 2018 | Scott Maucione

Commentary: Veterans are leaders that companies need
June 28, 2018 | Master Sgt. Gene Potes (Ret.)

Pentagon Intelligence Chief: Russia And China Will Have Weapons in Space 'In the Near Future'
June 27, 2018 | Patrick Tucker

China opens bids for first nuclear-powered icebreaker
June 27, 2018 | Thomas Nilsen

June 29, 2018 | Defense Acquisition Regulations System (Federal Register)
Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Undefinitized Contract Action Definitization (DFARS Case 2015-D024)
Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause "Requirements" (DFARS Case 2018-D030)
Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Repeal of DFARS Clause "Pricing Adjustments" (DFARS Case 2018-D032)
Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Offset Costs (DFARS Case 2015-D028)

Section 809 News

In our Volume 2 Report, we cover topics such as enterprise capability portfolio management, operationalizing the Dynamic Marketplace concept, commercial source selection, the acquisition workforce, the Cost Accounting Standards Board, and services contracting. Additionally, you will see more information on decluttering Title 10 of the U.S. Code. READ!

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SECTION 809 PANEL | *Streamlining & Codifying Acquisition*