From: Cook, Katie
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SECTION 809 PANEL

Daily Media Clips

July 17, 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.

In pursuit of innovative technologies, DoD creates another pathway around traditional acquisition rules

July 17, 2018 | Jared Serbu

Amid the hype over its growing use of Other Transaction Agreements, the Defense Department is taking yet another step into unorthodox contracting methods as it pursues more participation from non-traditional vendors.

As part of a four-year pilot program, the Pentagon has just issued new rules that will let its contracting officers move though streamlined acquisition processes when they're buying "innovative" commercial goods and services. Much like the department's burgeoning use of OTAs, they'll allow DoD to make purchases without issuing traditional requests for proposal and conducting formal competitions. But unlike OTAs, those purchases won't be restricted mainly to prototypes.

And the term "innovative" is fairly broad, under the June 26 guidance DoD published, known as a class deviation.

It sweeps up any commercial "technology, process, or method, including research and development, that is new as of the date of submission of a proposal, or any application that is new as of the date of submission of a proposal of a technology, process, or method."

Congress first granted DoD the new authority in December 2016 as part of the annual Defense authorization bill, but the department hasn't implemented it until now.

Under the pilot, acquisition officials will issue "general solicitations" to industry, instead of specific requests for proposals that describe precisely what the department wants to buy. And instead of the rigorous technical and price analyses that usually go into deciding a winner in a traditional procurement, officials will make a selection based on a "peer review" process involving subject matter experts.

Read more HERE.

Other Articles of Interest

Acquisition in the federal government: a conversation with FAS' Alan Thomas [Audio]

July 16, 2018 | Business of Government Hour

What could the White House's proposed government reorg look like for contractors? [Audio]
July 16, 2018 | Federal Drive

Pentagon Asks Congress to Shift $4.7 Billion for a More Lethal Army
July 17, 2018 | Anthony Capaccio

US reliance on credit for war funding could lead to inequality [Audio]
July 16, 2018 | Federal Drive

Manufacturing oversight shifts with new Pentagon reorg plan
July 16, 2018 | Aaron Mehta

Military Spending Is Up, but Aerospace and Defense Workers Are Scarce
July 16, 2018 | Christine Negroni

In age of AI, industry must keep an open mind about data sharing, Boeing head says
July 16, 2018 | Aaron Mehta

Defense Contracts: DOD Should Develop a Strategy for Assessing Contract Award Time Frames
July 16, 2018 | GAO

The Pentagon is gearing up to red team industry cybersecurity
July 16, 2018 | Aaron Mehta

What If Your Data Could Secure Itself?
July 16, 2018 | Gus Hunt

Inside DIUx's push into Texas
July 16, 2018 | Samantha Ehlinger

Section 809 News

We have a new Bold Bites Podcast available for your listening pleasure: LISTEN!
Commissioner Joseph Dyer leads the team researching successful programs in defense acquisition. Characteristics of Successful Programs is identifying the attributes and qualities common to successful programs, with an eye toward techniques, tools, and practices that can be widely employed. The team will make recommendations for best practices, regulations, and statutes.

Be sure to check out the Section 809 Panel Volume 2 Report.

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SECTION 809 PANEL | Streamlining & Codifying Acquisition