§ 132. Deputy Secretary of Defense

(a) There is a Deputy Secretary of Defense, appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Deputy Secretary shall be appointed from among persons most highly qualified for the position by reason of background and experience, including persons with appropriate management experience. A person may not be appointed as Deputy Secretary of Defense within seven years after relief from active duty as a commissioned officer of a regular component of an armed force.

(b) The Deputy Secretary shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe. The Deputy Secretary shall act for, and exercise the powers of, the Secretary when the Secretary is disabled or there is no Secretary of Defense.

(c) The Deputy Secretary serves as the Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense.

(d) The Deputy Secretary takes precedence in the Department of Defense immediately after the Secretary.

(e) Until September 30, 2020, the Deputy Secretary of Defense shall lead the Guam Oversight Council and shall be the Department of Defense’s principal representative for coordinating the interagency efforts in matters relating to Guam, including the following executive orders:


### Historical and Revision Notes

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<td>134(b)</td>
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<td>5:171c(a) (less 1st sentence and last 15 words of 2d sentence).</td>
<td>July 26, 1947, ch. 343, § 203(a); added Aug. 10, 1949, ch. 412, § 6(a) (1st par.), 63 Stat. 581.</td>
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<td>134(c)</td>
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In subsection (a), the last sentence is substituted for 5 U.S.C. 171c (a) (proviso).

### References in Text


Executive Order No. 12788, referred to in subsec. (e)(2), is set out as a note under section 2391 of this title.
Prior Provisions

A prior section 132 was renumbered section 112 of this title.

Amendments

2011—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 112–81 inserted “The Deputy Secretary shall be appointed from among persons most highly qualified for the position by reason of background and experience, including persons with appropriate management experience.” after first sentence.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 111–383, § 901(c)(2), struck out at end “The Deputy Secretary shall be assisted in this capacity by a Deputy Chief Management Officer, who shall be appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.”

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 111–383, § 1075(b)(4)(A), which directed redesignation of subsec. (d), as added by section 2831(a) of Pub. L. 111–84, as (e), could not be executed because of the prior amendment by Pub. L. 111–383, § 901(m)(2). See below.

Pub. L. 111–383, § 901(m)(2), redesignated subsec. (d) relating to duties of the Deputy Secretary of Defense relating to Guam, as (e).

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 111–383, § 2821, which directed substitution of “September 30, 2020” for “September 30, 2015” in subsec. (d), as added by section 2831(a) of Pub. L. 111–84, was executed in subsec. (e) to reflect the probable intent of Congress and the redesignation of subsec. (d) as (e) by Pub. L. 111–383, § 901(m)(2). See below.

Pub. L. 111–383, § 1075(b)(4), which directed redesignation of subsec. (d), as added by section 2831(a) of Pub. L. 111–84, as (e), and substitution of “Guam Oversight Council” for “Guam Executive Council”, was executed by making the substitution in subsec. (e) because of the prior redesignation of subsec. (d) as (e) by Pub. L. 111–383, § 901(m)(2). See below.

Pub. L. 111–383, § 901(m)(2), redesignated subsec. (d) relating to duties of the Deputy Secretary of Defense relating to Guam, as (e).


Subsecs. (c), (d). Pub. L. 110–181, § 904(a)(1), added subsec. (c) and redesignated former subsec. (c) as (d).

1986—Pub. L. 99–433 renumbered section 134 of this title as this section and struck out “: appointment; powers and duties; precedence” at end of section catchline.


Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 95–140, § 1(a)(1), substituted “There is a Deputy Secretary” for “There are two Deputy Secretaries” and struck out “a” before “Deputy Secretary”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95–140, § 1(a)(2), substituted “Deputy Secretary” for “Deputy Secretaries” and “Deputy Secretary” for “Deputy Secretaries, in the order of precedence, designated by the President”.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 95–140, § 1(a)(3), substituted “The Deputy Secretary takes” for “The Deputy Secretaries take”.


Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 92–596 substituted “There are two Deputy Secretaries” for “There is a Deputy Secretary of Defense”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 92–596 provided for the exercise of powers and duties consequent to the creation of a second Deputy Secretary.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 92–596 substituted “The Deputy Secretaries take” for “The Deputy Secretary takes”.

Effective Date of 2011 Amendment


Order of Succession

For order of succession during any period when the Secretary has died, resigned, or is otherwise unable to perform the functions and duties of the office of Secretary, see Ex. Ord. No. 13533, Mar. 1, 2010, 75 F.R. 10163, set out as a note under section 3345 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.
Assignment of Duties


“(A) The Secretary of Defense shall assign duties and authorities relating to the management of the business operations of the Department of Defense.

“(B) The Secretary shall assign such duties and authorities to the Chief Management Officer as are necessary for that official to effectively and efficiently organize the business operations of the Department of Defense.

“(C) The Secretary shall assign such duties and authorities to the Deputy Chief Management Officer as are necessary for that official to assist the Chief Management Officer to effectively and efficiently organize the business operations of the Department of Defense.

“(D) The Deputy Chief Management Officer shall perform the duties and have the authorities assigned by the Secretary under subparagraph (C) and perform such duties and have such authorities as are delegated by the Chief Management Officer.”

Assignment of Management Duties and Designation of the Chief Management Officers of the Military Departments


“(1) The Secretary of a military department shall assign duties and authorities relating to the management of the business operations of such military department.

“(2) The Secretary of a military department, in assigning duties and authorities under paragraph (1) shall designate the Under Secretary of such military department to have the primary management responsibility for business operations, to be known in the performance of such duties as the Chief Management Officer.

“(3) The Secretary shall assign such duties and authorities to the Chief Management Officer as are necessary for that official to effectively and efficiently organize the business operations of the military department concerned.

“(4) The Chief Management Officer of each military department shall promptly provide such information relating to the business operations of such department to the Chief Management Officer and Deputy Chief Management Officer of the Department of Defense as is necessary to assist those officials in the performance of their duties.”