

**“§ 134. Under Secretary of Defense for Policy**

“(a) There is an Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. A person may not be appointed as Under Secretary within 10 years after relief from active duty as a commissioned officer of a regular component of an armed force.

“(b)(1) The Under Secretary shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Secretary of Defense may prescribe.

“(2) The Under Secretary shall assist the Secretary of Defense—

“(A) in preparing written policy guidance for the preparation and review of contingency plans; and

“(B) in reviewing such plans.

“(c) The Under Secretary takes precedence in the Department of Defense after the Secretary of Defense, the Deputy Secretary of Defense, and the Secretaries of the military departments.

**“§ 135. Director of Defense Research and Engineering**

“(a) There is a Director of Defense Research and Engineering, appointed from civilian life by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.”; and

(2) by striking out the first sentence of subsections (b) and (c) of section 135 (as designated by paragraph (1)).

**SEC. 106. ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE**

(a) **REPEAL OF SPECIFICATION OF CERTAIN ASSISTANT SECRETARIES.**—Subsection (b) of section 136 is amended—

(1) by striking out paragraphs (2) and (3);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (2) and (3), respectively; and

(3) by striking out paragraph (6).

(b) **PRECEDENCE.**—Subsection (e) of such section is amended—

(1) by striking out “and the Under Secretaries of Defense” and inserting in lieu thereof “the Under Secretaries of Defense, and the Director of Defense Research and Engineering”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “The Assistant Secretaries take precedence among themselves in the order prescribed by the Secretary of Defense.”.

(c) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Such section is further amended—

(1) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking out “him” in paragraph (1) and inserting in lieu thereof “the Assistant Secretary”; and

(B) by striking out “, or his designee” in paragraph (2);

(2) by striking out subsection (d); and

(3) by redesignating subsection (e) (as amended by subsection (b) of this section) as subsection (d).

**SEC. 107. COMPTROLLER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

Chapter 4 is further amended by inserting after section 136 the following new section: