

National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2007
(Public Law 109–364—OCT. 17, 2006)

SEC. 801. REQUIREMENTS MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION TRAINING PROGRAM.

(a) TRAINING PROGRAM.—

(1) REQUIREMENT.—The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, in consultation with the Defense Acquisition University, shall develop a training program to certify military and civilian personnel of the Department of Defense with responsibility for generating requirements for major defense acquisition programs (as defined in section 2430(a) of title 10, United States Code).

(2) COMPETENCY AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—The Under Secretary shall establish competency requirements for the personnel undergoing the training program. The Under Secretary shall define the target population for such training program by identifying which military and civilian personnel should have responsibility for generating requirements. The Under Secretary also may establish other training programs for personnel not subject to chapter 87 of title 10, United States Code, who contribute significantly to other types of acquisitions by the Department of Defense.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Effective on and after September 30, 2008, a member of the Armed Forces or an employee of the Department of Defense with authority to generate requirements for a major defense acquisition program may not continue to participate in the requirements generation process unless the member or employee successfully completes the certification training program developed under this section.

Conference Report (HR 5122), NDAA 2007, Section 801: The conferees believe that the training program established in accordance with this provision should address:

- (1) the interrelationship between the requirements, budget, and acquisition processes;
- (2) the importance of developing requirements that facilitate joint operations;
- (3) the need to ensure that requirements are developed early in a program and the adverse effect of introducing new requirements after the commencement of system development and demonstration;
- (4) the linkage between requirements and capability shortfalls identified by combatant commanders;
- (5) the need for sound analysis of alternatives, realistic technical assessments based on technology readiness levels, and consultation with production engineers on the cost, schedule, and technical feasibility of requirements;
- (6) the need for engineering feasibility assessments that weigh the technology readiness, integration, cost, and schedule impacts of proposed changes to requirements;
- (7) the importance of developing requirements that are technologically mature, feasible, and achievable;
and
- (8) the importance of stable requirements to provide the baseline for successful program execution.