

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

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MEMORANDUM FOR SENIOR PENTAGON LEADERSHIP COMMANDERS OF THE COMBATANT COMMANDS DEFENSE AGENCY AND DOD FIELD ACTIVITY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Review of Department of Defense Advisory Committees

Advisory committees have, and will continue to provide, an important role in shaping public policy within DoD. Our stewardship responsibilities require that we continually assess to ensure each advisory committee, board, or panel (hereafter collectively referred to as "DoD advisory committees") provides appropriate value as times and requirements change.

Pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Secretary of Defense, effective immediately, I am directing a 45-day review of all DoD advisory committees, including those that are not subject to chapter 10 of Title 5, United States Code (commonly known as "the Federal Advisory Committee Act" or "FACA"). This review will ensure that the Department's advisory committee efforts align with our most pressing strategic priorities and the President's goals.

During this review, DoD advisory committees will pause all operations and expenditure of funds, except for those Federal advisory committees whose members are appointed by the President or Congress. Each DoD Sponsor will provide the Performance Improvement Officer and Director of Administration and Management (PIO/DA&M) the following information for each DoD advisory committee no later than 14 days from the date of this memorandum. All submissions will be UNCLASSIFIED.

- 1. The purpose, duties, and objectives, to include terms of references, for each DoD advisory committee and each subcommittee established by the DoD Sponsor; and applicable statutory authority, if any.
- 2. A current listing of all DoD advisory committee and subcommittee members, to include when such members were appointed and for what term of service.
- 3. The estimated annual operating cost in terms of funding and full-time equivalents for Fiscal Year 2025 and reported costs for the last eight fiscal years.
- 4. Current activities of the advisory committee, such as final deliverables to the Sponsor and implementation of any recommendations, as well as statutory requirements for such deliverables, if any.
- 5. A single page describing how the DoD advisory committee's advice and recommendations benefited the DoD, the Federal Government, and the United States, and how it aligns with the President's goals and my priorities of restoring the warrior ethos, rebuilding our military, and reestablishing deterrence.
- 6. A recommendation for retention, termination, or merger of the DoD advisory committee. If recommending termination of a statutorily required DoD advisory committee, provide a draft legislative proposal for consideration.



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The PIO/DA&M will submit the results of these reviews and, as appropriate, recommendations to me no later than 45 days from the date of this memorandum. Recommendations will consider each committee's compliance with Executive Orders, alignment with my strategic priorities, benefit provided to DoD, cost, and membership.

The Department has notified the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives that the Defense Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion will be terminated. The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness will ensure that the security clearances of members of the Defense Advisory

Committee on Diversity and Inclusion are revoked.