As the Department of Defense (DOD) makes reductions in its Total Force workforce composition, military, civilians, and contractors, the committee is increasingly concerned about the use of military manpower to perform functions previously performed by either civilians or contractors. While the Department of the Navy and the Department of the Air Force have indicated they do not anticipate wholesale substitutions using military personnel, the Secretary of the Army, in testimony before the committee in April 2013, predicted that the Army could use as many as 8,000 uniformed personnel to fill positions during the current fiscal year because reduced funding for training has created time gaps in the duty day and freed up soldiers for other duties. The committee understands the need for temporary, limited local command use of military personnel performing civilian work to accomplish mission objectives, but the committee notes that use of military manpower outside the service member’s military occupational specialty poses risks to readiness and training, and raises issues of unsustainable costs.

Consistent with “Guidance Related to the Utilization of Military Manpower to Perform Certain Functions,” issued March 2, 2012, by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, the committee expects the Department of Defense to calculate the cost of using military personnel in lieu of civilian personnel or service contractors to perform non-military tasks in accordance with Directive Type Memorandum (DTM)-09-007, “Estimating and Comparing the Full Costs of Civilian and Military Manpower and Contract Support” or any succeeding guidance. For the purposes of this direction, military tasks are as defined in DOD Directive 1100.4, DOD Instruction 1100.22, and any successor or amplifying guidance as issued by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

Additionally, the committee directs the Comptroller General of the United States to review the use of borrowed military manpower (BMM) and to provide a report to the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives by April 30, 2014, regarding the impacts on military readiness and training in fiscal year 2013, including how the Department weighed operational risks and capabilities and readiness levels with BMM calculations and decisions. The Comptroller General also should examine the extent to which manpower costs were calculated using the DTM 09-00. The committee understands that the Government Accountability Office is undertaking an extensive body of work regarding the impacts of sequestration on the Department of Defense and further directs the Comptroller General to include the use of BMM as a part of this effort.