United States Code Title 10, Section 139 (10 USC 139), specifies that “the Director shall have sufficient professional staff of military and civilian personnel to enable the Director to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the Director prescribed by law.” The Director has determined that he does not have sufficient professional staff to carry out the duties and responsibilities prescribed by statute or to support several Department initiatives. The number of Action Officers on the Director, Operational Test and Evaluation’s staff has remained essentially the same since the organization stood up in 1983 while a progression of statutory changes and acquisition initiatives detailed below have nearly doubled the workload. The Director requests an increase in his manpower authorization of one senior executive, three military, and 18 civilian billets. The request for additional military billets is to ensure the warfighter’s current operational perspective continues in support of the Director’s 10 USC 139 responsibilities. However, if the on-going wartime operations do not permit assignment of additional military officers, the need for additional manpower outweighs the requirement for a current warfighter perspective and experienced civilian equivalents with operational command backgrounds could be substituted for the three military billets.

This additional manpower will be utilized in six areas, which are currently understaffed:

A. A senior executive to serve as the Deputy Director for Net-Centric and Space Systems.

B. Additional Action Officers (two military and seven civilians) to support oversight of operational and live fire test and evaluation programs.

C. A civilian employee to serve as the special access program control officer to free up an existing military Action Officer who is performing this growing function as a collateral duty in addition to oversight of operational test and evaluation programs.

D. Additional Action Officers (four civilians) to support the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System as well as Department acquisition process initiatives.

E. Two Action Officers (one military and one civilian) to support Information Assurance and Interoperability evaluations of fielded systems.

F. Five program management specialists (civilians) to manage the Joint Test and Evaluation Program.