SEC. 913. REPEAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR OPERATIONALLY RESPONSIVE SPACE PROGRAM OFFICE IN DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

(a) REPEAL.—Section 2273a of title 10, United States Code is repealed.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of section at the beginning of chapter 135 of such title is amended by striking the item relating to section 2273a.

Section-by-Section Analysis

This proposal would repeal section 2273a of title 10, United States Code, which requires the Secretary of Defense to establish an office to be known as the Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) Program Office. The Office has met its initial mission goals. Repeal of 10 U.S.C. § 2273a would allow the Department of Defense and the Air Force to build on the ORS Program Office's successes and better incorporate the concept of operationally responsive space into the broader space mission.

In section 913 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007 (P.L. 109-364), Congress directed the creation of the Operationally Responsive Space (ORS) Program Office "to contribute to the development of low-cost, rapid reaction payloads, busses, space lift and launch control capabilities." In the subsequent four years, the ORS Program Office worked hard to accomplish this assigned mission. The ORS Program Office launched several small satellites (Tactical Satellite [TACSAT]-3, TACSAT-4 and ORS-1) to demonstrate responsiveness and/or to meet Combatant Commander needs, repurposed existing space assets, conducted feasibility studies for United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM), and conducted an extensive research and development program to develop common interfaces to support rapid acquisition of both satellite busses and sensors. In addition, the ORS Program Office designed, built and launched ORS-1 in approximately 30 months to meet the requirements of United States Central Command. Building on these accomplishments, it is now time to incorporate the concept of operationally responsive space into the broader space mission.

This refocused effort will integrate the operationally responsive space efforts, principles, and activities into the Air Force Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC). SMC will then be better able to develop various enablers to ensure resilience, survivability and flexibility and to explore space mission augmentation options across existing program offices. SMC will also be better positioned to incorporate responsive and resilient research and development (R&D) efforts into other platforms.

The Department of Defense will support the new approach by developing architectures for space mission areas that will include international cooperation and commercial solutions and will also look at how space missions are sustained and augmented to support the warfighter in all contingencies. This approach will also integrate the lessons learned from the ORS Program Office's accomplishments into the broader set of space programs for which SMC is responsible.

Integrating ORS Program Office's mission into the center for space development and acquisition, SMC, will ensure this new approach succeeds.

The Air Force will use existing funding to support a new approach that includes integrating resilience, survivability and flexibility into space architectures across mission areas. The end result of the Program Office's termination will be that operationally responsive space activities are fully integrated into SMC's ongoing architectures and Space Modernization Initiative, increasing resilience and flexibility in the space systems for which SMC is responsible. TACSAT-4 and ORS-1 will continue operating through their operational design life from Blossom Point, Maryland, and Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado, in support of the nation's warfighters.

Budget Implications: Elimination of the ORS Program Office is OSD-directed, accomplished through RMD 700A1, Funding Table 21, Appendix I. Removing the statutory establishment of the ORS Program Office will allow the Air Force to most effectively utilize space program dollars in a very fiscally constrained environment while integrating operationally responsive space activities across the Service. Moving $10M of ORS funding into the five program elements shown below continues ORS enabler development efforts and investments in key capability areas (e.g., communications, OPIR, etc.) within SMC's existing mission to provide "affordable and resilient space capabilities." Areas of focus will remain hosted payload integration, urgent need concepts/solutions for USSTRATCOM, wargaming support, architecting, and development planning. Elimination of the ORS Program Office is forecast to save $ 455.8 million over fiscal years 2013-2017. The Program Element is 0604857F.

RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS ($MILLIONS)								
	FY 2013	**FY 2014**	**FY 2015**	**FY 2016**	**FY 2017**	**Appropriation From**	**Budget Activity**	**Dash-1 Line Item**
ORS PE0604857F	-76.4	-52.7	-123.5	-125.6	-127.7	28 - RDT&E, AF	4	54
Tech Transition Program PE0604858F	+3.0	+3.0	+3.0	+3.0	+3.0	28 - RDT&E, AF	4	55
SBIRS PE0604441F (BPAC 657009)	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0	28 - RDT&E, AF	5	69
SCT Tech Insertion PE0603438F (BPAC 642611)	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0	+2.0	28 - RDT&E, AF	4	32
AEHF PE0603430F (BPAC 64A030)	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	28 - RDT&E, AF	4	30
GPS III OCS PE0603423F	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	+1.5	28 - RDT&E, AF	7	112

(BPAC 67A025)								

Changes to Existing Law: The proposal would repeal section 2273a of title 10, United States Code, as follows:

TITLE 10, UNITED STATES CODE

~~§ 2273a. Operationally Responsive Space Program Office~~

~~(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish within the Department of Defense an office to be known as the Operationally Responsive Space Program Office (in this section referred to as the 'Office').~~

~~(b) HEAD OF OFFICE.—The head of the Office shall be—~~

~~(1) the Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space; or~~

~~(2) the designee of the Secretary of Defense, who shall report to the Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space.~~

~~(c) MISSION.—The mission of the Office shall be—~~

~~(1) to contribute to the development of low cost, rapid reaction payloads, busses, spacelift, and launch control capabilities in order to fulfill joint military operational requirements for on-demand space support and reconstitution; and~~

~~(2) to coordinate and execute operationally responsive space efforts across the Department of Defense with respect to planning, acquisition, and operations.~~

~~(d) ELEMENTS.—The Secretary of Defense shall select the elements of the Department of Defense to be included in the Office so as to contribute to the development of capabilities for operationally responsive space and to achieve a balanced representation of the military departments in the Office to ensure proper acknowledgment of joint considerations in the activities of the Office, except that the Office shall include the following:~~

~~(1) A science and technology element that shall pursue innovative approaches to the development of capabilities for operationally responsive space through basic and applied research focused on (but not limited to) payloads, bus, and launch equipment.~~

~~(2) An acquisition element that shall under take the acquisition of systems necessary to integrate, sustain, and launch assets for operationally responsive space.~~

~~(3) An operations element that shall—~~

~~(A) sustain and maintain assets for operationally responsive space prior to launch;~~

~~(B) integrate and launch such assets; and~~

~~(C) operate such assets in orbit.~~

~~(4) A combatant command support element that shall serve as the primary intermediary between the military departments and the combatant commands in order to—~~

~~(A) ascertain the needs of the commanders of the combatant commands; and~~

~~(B) integrate operationally responsive space capabilities into—~~

~~(i) operations plans of the combatant commands;~~

~~(ii) techniques, tactics, and procedures of the military departments; and~~

~~(iii) military exercises, demonstrations, and war games.~~

~~(5) Such other elements as the Secretary of Defense may consider necessary.~~

~~(e) ACQUISITION AUTHORITY.—The acquisition activities of the Office shall be subject to the following:~~

~~(1) The Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space shall be the senior acquisition executive of the Office.~~

~~(2) The Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System process shall not apply to acquisitions by the Office for operational experimentation.~~

~~(3) The commander of the United States Strategic Command, or the designee of the commander, shall—~~

~~(A) validate all system requirements for systems to be acquired by the Office; and~~

~~(B) participate in the approval of any acquisition program initiated by the Office.~~

~~(4) To the maximum extent practicable, the procurement unit cost of a launch vehicle procured by the Office for launch to low earth orbit should not exceed $20,000,000 (in constant dollars).~~

~~(5) To the maximum extent practicable, the procurement unit cost of an integrated satellite procured by the Office should not exceed $40,000,000 (in constant dollars).~~

~~(f) REQUIRED PROGRAM ELEMENT.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that, within budget program elements for space programs of the Department of Defense, that—~~

~~(A) there is a separate, dedicated program element for operationally responsive space;~~

~~(B) to the extent applicable, relevant program elements should be consolidated into the program element required by subparagraph (A); and~~

~~(C) the Office executes its responsibilities through this program element.~~

~~(2) The Office shall manage the program element required by paragraph (1)(A).~~.