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Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification: PB 2025 Air Force **Date:** March 2024

Appropriation/Budget Activity 3620F: <i>Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Space Force I BA 2: Applied Research</i>	R-1 Program Element (Number/Name) PE 1202212SF / <i>Defense Laboratories R&D Projects</i>
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COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element	-	14.330	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	14.330
622030: <i>Defense Lab R&D Projects</i>	-	14.330	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	14.330

A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification

Implementation of 10 U.S.C. Section 4123, amendment to 10 U.S.C. Section 2363, to fund: innovative basic and applied research conducted at the defense laboratory and supports military missions; development programs supporting the transition of technologies developed by the defense laboratory into operational use; workforce development activities improving the capacity of the defense laboratory to recruit and retain personnel with necessary scientific and engineering expertise that support military missions; and the repair or minor military construction of the laboratory infrastructure and equipment.

The United States Space Force (USSF) is dependent on technological advances in response to emerging threats and to maintain a competitive advantage. The USSF has a comprehensive and deliberative planning process to identify and fund research that is expected to have the greatest benefit to the USSF and the warfighter. 10 U.S.C. Section 4123 provides the Commander of the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL), in consultation with the Department of the Air Force Science and Technology Executive, a degree of flexibility to rapidly exploit scientific breakthroughs or respond to emerging threats, to include developing a skilled workforce and necessary infrastructure. This flexibility increases the rate of innovation and accelerates the development and fielding of needed military capabilities to address current and future problems.

In FY 2021 the USSF established Program Element (PE) 1202212SF, which internally reprograms 10 U.S.C. Section 4123 funds to this USSF program element in the year of execution after receipt of the appropriation. This allows increased transparency to Congress on 10 U.S.C. Section 4123 funding and additional execution flexibility for 10 U.S.C. Section 4123 activities to cross all technology areas. This is a parallel effort to United States Air Force (USAF) PE 0602212F, which also internally reprograms 10 U.S.C. Section 4123 funds into the USAF program element in the year of execution after receipt of the appropriation.

This program is in Budget Activity 2, Applied Research because this budget activity includes studies, investigations, and non-system specific technology efforts directed toward general military needs with a view toward developing and evaluating the feasibility and practicality of proposed solutions and determining their parameters.

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B. Program Change Summary (\$ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total
Previous President's Budget	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Current President's Budget	14.330	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total Adjustments	14.330	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
• Congressional General Reductions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Directed Reductions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Rescissions	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Adds	0.000	0.000			
• Congressional Directed Transfers	0.000	0.000			
• Reprogrammings	0.000	0.000			
• SBIR/STTR Transfer	0.000	0.000			
• Other Adjustments	14.330	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

Change Summary Explanation

Increase in FY 2023 in Other Adjustments is due to realignment of funds to PE 1202212SF to support Research and Development Projects, 10 U.S.C. Section 4123.

C. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Title: Defense Laboratories R&D Projects - Air Force Research Laboratory	14.330	0.000	0.000
Description: Implementation of 10 U.S.C. Section 2363, amendment to PL 110-417, 10 U.S.C. Section 2358 and 10 U.S.C. 2805(d)(1)(B), to fund: innovative basic and applied research conducted at the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) and supports military missions; development programs supporting the transition of technologies developed by AFRL into operational use; workforce development activities improving the capacity of AFRL to recruit and retain personnel with necessary scientific and engineering expertise that support military missions; and the repair or minor military construction of the laboratory infrastructure and equipment.			
FY 2024 Plans: NA			
FY 2025 Plans: N/A			
FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement: N/A			
Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals	14.330	0.000	0.000

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3620F: *Research, Development, Test & Evaluation, Space Force I BA 2: Applied Research*

R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)
PE 1202212SF / *Defense Laboratories R&D Projects*

D. Other Program Funding Summary (\$ in Millions)

N/A

Remarks

E. Acquisition Strategy

Not Applicable