To promote the national defense by providing for three functionally balanced military departments unified under a Secretary of National Defense, and for further integration by establishing an independent under a Council of National Defense, with all other departments and agencies of the Government concerned with the national defense. In this section reference to the "Council" means the Council shall be the coordinating and the Act is emitted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that:

SEC. 1. This Act may be cited as the "National Defense Act of 1947.

SEC. 2. In enacting this legislation, it is the intent of Congress to provide a comprehensive and continuing program for the future security of the United States, to coordinate under civilian control the departments and agencies of the Government and their functions, relating to the national defense; to provide permanent machinery for the establishment of integrated programs for the maximum use of the Nation's military, human, natural and industrial resources in the interests of national defense; to realize the objectives that can be achieved through unified control and coordination of military and supply and service functions; prevent undesirable duplication and overlapping of functions; and to insure the establishment of an efficient team of land, sea, and air forces to protect our national security.

President of the Senate