

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5920

To enhance whistleblower protection for contractor and grantee employees.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 21, 2016

Mr. CUMMINGS (for himself, Mr. CHAFFETZ, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. LYNCH, and Mr. JEFFRIES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To enhance whistleblower protection for contractor and grantee employees.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Whistleblower Protec-
5 tions for Contractors Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENHANCEMENT OF WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION**
2 **FOR CONTRACTOR AND GRANTEE EMPLOY-**
3 **EES.**

4 (a) PROTECTION FOR EMPLOYEES OF GRANTEES
5 AND SUBGRANTEES.—

6 (1) DEFENSE GRANTS.—Section 2409(a)(1) of
7 title 10, United States Code, is amended by insert-
8 ing “or personal services contractor” after “sub-
9 grantee”.

10 (2) CIVILIAN GRANTS.—Section 4712(a)(1) of
11 title 41, United States Code, is amended by striking
12 “or grantee” and inserting “grantee, or subgrantee
13 or personal services contractor”.

14 (3) PERMANENT EXTENSION OF PILOT PRO-
15 GRAM FOR ENHANCEMENT OF CONTRACTOR PROTEC-
16 TION FROM REPRISAL FOR DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN
17 INFORMATION.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 4712 of title
19 41, United States Code, is amended—

20 (i) in the section heading by striking
21 **“Pilot program for enhancement”**
22 and inserting **“Enhancement”**; and

23 (ii) by striking subsection (i).

24 (B) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of
25 sections at the beginning of chapter 47 of title
26 41, United States Code, is amended by striking

1 the item relating to section 4712 and inserting
2 the following new item:

“4712. Enhancement of contractor protection from reprisal for disclosure of certain information.”.

3 (b) PROHIBITION ON REIMBURSEMENT FOR LEGAL
4 FEES ACCRUED IN DEFENSE AGAINST REPRISAL
5 CLAIMS.—

6 (1) DEFENSE CONTRACTS.—Section 2324(k) of
7 title 10, United States Code, is amended—

8 (A) by inserting “or subcontractor, or per-
9 sonal services contractor” after “contractor”
10 each place it appears;

11 (B) by inserting “, subcontract, or per-
12 sonal services contract” after “contract” each
13 place it appears; and

14 (C) in paragraph (1), by inserting “or to
15 any other activity described in subparagraphs
16 (A) through (C) of section 2409(a)(1) of this
17 title” after “statute or regulation”.

18 (2) CIVILIAN CONTRACTS.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Section 4310 of title
20 41, United States Code, is amended—

21 (i) by inserting “, subcontractor, or
22 personal services contractor” after “con-
23 tractor” each place it appears;

1 (ii) by inserting “, subcontract, or
2 personal services contract” after “con-
3 tract” each place it appears; and

4 (iii) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting
5 “or to any other activity described in sec-
6 tion 4712(a)(1) of this title” after “statute
7 or regulation”.

8 (B) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
9 4304(a)(15) of title 41, United States Code, is
10 amended by inserting “or subcontractor, or per-
11 sonal service contractor” after “contractor”.

12 (c) INCLUSION OF CONTRACT CLAUSE IN CONTRACTS
13 AWARDED BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—At the time of
14 any major modification to a contract that was awarded
15 before the date of the enactment of this Act, the head of
16 the contracting agency shall make best efforts to include
17 in the contract a contract clause providing for the applica-
18 bility of the amendments made by this section and section
19 827 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
20 Year 2013 (Public Law 112–239; 126 Stat. 1833).

○