

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 643

Expressing support for the designation of July 30, 2023, as “National Whistleblower Appreciation Day”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 2023

Ms. PORTER submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of July 30, 2023, as “National Whistleblower Appreciation Day”.

Whereas, in 1777, before the passage of the Bill of Rights, 10 sailors and marines blew the whistle on misconduct that was harmful to the United States;

Whereas the Continental Congress unanimously supported the whistleblowers in words and deeds, including by releasing Government records and providing monetary assistance for the reasonable legal expenses necessary to prevent retaliation against the whistleblowers;

Whereas, on July 30, 1778, in demonstration of their full support for whistleblowers, the Members of the Continental Congress unanimously passed the first whistleblower legislation in the United States that read, “*Resolved*, That it is the duty of all persons in the service

of the United States, as well as all other inhabitants thereof, to give the earliest information to Congress or other proper authority of any misconduct, frauds or misdemeanors committed by any officers or persons in the service of these states, which may come to their knowledge.”;

Whereas whistleblowers may risk their careers, jobs, and reputations by honest and good faith reporting of waste, fraud, and abuse to the proper authorities;

Whereas, in providing the proper authorities with lawful disclosures, whistleblowers save the taxpayers of the United States billions of dollars each year and serve the public interest by ensuring that the United States remains an ethical and safe place; and

Whereas it is the public policy of the United States to encourage, in accordance with Federal law (including the Constitution of the United States, rules, and regulations) and consistent with the protection of classified information (including sources and methods of detection of classified information), honest and good faith reporting of misconduct, fraud, misdemeanors, and other crimes to the appropriate authority at the earliest time possible: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of “National Whis-
3 tleblower Appreciation Day”; and

4 (2) ensures that the Federal Government imple-
5 ments the intent of the Continental Congress, as re-
6 flected in the legislation enacted on July 30, 1778,

1 by encouraging each executive agency to recognize
2 National Whistleblower Appreciation Day by—

3 (A) informing employees, contractors work-
4 ing on behalf of United States taxpayers, and
5 members of the public about the legal right of
6 an individual to “blow the whistle” to the ap-
7 propriate authority by honest and good faith re-
8 porting of misconduct, fraud, misdemeanors, or
9 other crimes; and

10 (B) acknowledging the contributions of
11 whistleblowers to combating waste, fraud,
12 abuse, and violations of laws and regulations of
13 the United States.

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