

HR 3281

Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: Oct 8, 2003

Current Status: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

Latest Action: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote. (Sep 29, 2004)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/3281>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Platts, Todd Russell [R-PA-19]

Party: Republican • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (45 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. McHugh, John M. [R-NY-23]	R · NY		Oct 8, 2003
Rep. Ruppersberger, C. A. Dutch [D-MD-2]	D · MD		Oct 8, 2003
Rep. Schakowsky, Janice D. [D-IL-9]	D · IL		Oct 8, 2003
Rep. Shays, Christopher [R-CT-4]	R · CT		Oct 8, 2003
Rep. Tierney, John F. [D-MA-6]	D · MA		Oct 8, 2003
Rep. Waxman, Henry A. [D-CA-30]	D · CA		Oct 8, 2003
Rep. Wolf, Frank R. [R-VA-10]	R · VA		Oct 8, 2003
Rep. Frank, Barney [D-MA-4]	D · MA		Oct 16, 2003
Rep. Boehlert, Sherwood [R-NY-24]	R · NY		Oct 21, 2003
Rep. LaHood, Ray [R-IL-18]	R · IL		Oct 21, 2003
Rep. Johnson, Nancy L. [R-CT-5]	R · CT		Oct 29, 2003
Rep. Meehan, Martin T. [D-MA-5]	D · MA		Oct 29, 2003
Rep. Kucinich, Dennis J. [D-OH-10]	D · OH		Nov 5, 2003
Rep. Van Hollen, Chris [D-MD-8]	D · MD		Nov 5, 2003
Rep. Woolsey, Lynn C. [D-CA-6]	D · CA		Nov 5, 2003
Rep. Blackburn, Marsha [R-TN-7]	R · TN		Nov 6, 2003
Rep. Jones, Stephanie Tubbs [D-OH-11]	D · OH		Jan 21, 2004
Rep. Udall, Tom [D-NM-3]	D · NM		Feb 3, 2004
Rep. Gilchrest, Wayne T. [R-MD-1]	R · MD		Feb 11, 2004
Rep. Farr, Sam [D-CA-17]	D · CA		Apr 1, 2004
Rep. Filner, Bob [D-CA-51]	D · CA		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. Inslee, Jay [D-WA-1]	D · WA		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. McCollum, Betty [D-MN-4]	D · MN		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. McGovern, James P. [D-MA-3]	D · MA		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. Paul, Ron [R-TX-14]	R · TX		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. Simmons, Rob [R-CT-2]	R · CT		Apr 20, 2004
Rep. Ehlers, Vernon J. [R-MI-3]	R · MI		May 4, 2004
Rep. Pascrell, Bill, Jr. [D-NJ-8]	D · NJ		May 4, 2004
Rep. Price, David E. [D-NC-4]	D · NC		May 4, 2004
Rep. Smith, Adam [D-WA-9]	D · WA		May 4, 2004
Rep. Wexler, Robert [D-FL-19]	D · FL		May 4, 2004
Rep. Blumenauer, Earl [D-OR-3]	D · OR		Jun 1, 2004
Rep. Cummings, Elijah E. [D-MD-7]	D · MD		Jun 15, 2004
Rep. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA-7]	D · MA		Jun 15, 2004
Rep. McNulty, Michael R. [D-NY-21]	D · NY		Jun 15, 2004
Rep. Miller, George [D-CA-7]	D · CA		Jun 15, 2004
Rep. Moore, Dennis [D-KS-3]	D · KS		Jun 15, 2004
Rep. DeGette, Diana [D-CO-1]	D · CO		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Stark, Fortney Pete [D-CA-13]	D · CA		Jun 17, 2004
Rep. Levin, Sander M. [D-MI-12]	D · MI		Jul 20, 2004

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Duncan, John J., Jr. [R-TN-2]	R · TN		Sep 8, 2004
Rep. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI-2]	D · WI		Oct 6, 2004
Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2]	D · RI		Oct 6, 2004
Rep. Berman, Howard L. [D-CA-28]	D · CA		Dec 7, 2004

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Markup By	Sep 29, 2004

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Summary (as of Oct 8, 2003)

Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act - Amends Federal law to protect specified disclosures by Federal employees or applicants without restriction as to time, place, form, motive, context, or prior disclosure.

Creates a rebuttable presumption regarding the performance of duty by employees with authority.

Prohibits implementation or enforcement of nondisclosure documents absent a statement that the restrictions imposed are consistent with and do not supersede specified laws.

Authorizes the Merit Systems Protection Board or any reviewing court to determine whether there was a violation of prohibited personnel practices in actions relating to security clearances and to provide specified relief.

Authorizes the President to exclude agencies with certain intelligence functions from coverage under the whistleblower statute only if the exclusion decision, as it relates to a personnel action, is made before that personnel action.

Includes compensatory damages in the list of authorized corrective actions the Board may impose. Authorizes the Board to impose a combination of disciplinary action and civil penalties.

Permits representation by attorneys for the Office of the Special Counsel in specified civil actions.

Authorizes the Office of Special Counsel to obtain judicial review of Board decisions.

Allows petitions for review to be filed in any court of appeals of competent jurisdiction during the five-year period beginning on the effective date of this Act (restricted to the Federal Circuit thereafter). Lengthens the appeal period.

Amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to clarify that the disclosure of independently obtained critical infrastructure information is a protected disclosure.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 29, 2004:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Sep 29, 2004:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Oct 8, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 8, 2003:** Referred to the House Committee on Government Reform.

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