Expressing support for the designation of July 30, 2021, as “National Whistleblower Appreciation Day”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Speier submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on ________________

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of July 30, 2021, 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 authorizing payment for legal expenses incurred by the whistleblowers incurred in defending against a retaliatory criminal libel lawsuit brought against them;

Whereas, on July 30, 1778, in demonstration of their full support for whistleblowers, the Members of the Conti-
nental Congress unanimously enacted the first whistle-
blower legislation in the United States that read: “Re-
solved, That it is the duty of all persons in the service
of the United States, as well as all other the inhabitants
thereof, to give the earliest information to Congress or
other proper authority of any misconduct, frauds or mis-
demeanors committed by any officers or persons in the
service of these states, which may come to their knowl-
edge”;

Whereas whistleblowers risk their careers, jobs, and reputa-
tions by reporting waste, fraud, and abuse to the proper
authorities;

Whereas in providing the proper authorities with lawful dis-
closures, 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 en-
courage, in accordance with Federal law (including the
Constitution of the United States, rules, and regulations)
and consistent with the protection of classified informa-
tion (including sources and methods of detection of clas-
sified 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 Founding Fathers, as re-
flected in the legislation enacted on July 30, 1778, by encouraging each executive agency to recognize National Whistleblower Appreciation Day by—

(A) informing employees, contractors working on behalf of United States taxpayers, and members of the public about the legal right of a United States citizen to “blow the whistle” to the appropriate authority by honest and good faith reporting of misconduct, fraud, misdeemors, or other crimes; and

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