

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

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**Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney**  
**“Protecting Those Who Blow the Whistle on Government Wrongdoing”**  
**Subcommittee on Government Operations**  
**Tuesday January 28, 2020**

I want to thank Chairman Connolly for holding this important hearing today on whistleblower protections.

Whistleblowers are vital to Congress’ constitutional oversight responsibilities.

They are often the first line of defense in fighting waste, fraud, and abuse.

Without strong protections—and the ability to remain anonymous—whistleblowers could face retaliation.

This could chill their willingness to report abuses to us, and that would hurt our ability to fulfill our Constitutional duties responsibilities.

Interfering with an employee’s communications with Congress is already illegal.

And so is retaliating against employees who engage in such communications.

But as we have seen over the past year, some of our leaders do not seem to value whistleblowers in the same way we do.

For these reasons, I am working with Chairman Connolly and several other colleagues on legislation to improve existing protections for federal whistleblowers even further.

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