

May 2, 2017

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
Ranking Member
House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
2471 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Blake Farenthold
House Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform
2331 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Cummings and Representative Farenthold:

I am proud to support your “All Circuit Review Act.” This bill will permanently codify the pilot program established by the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act in 2012 and later extended, which allows whistleblowers who appeal a judgment of the Merit Systems Protection Board to file their appeal in any US Court of Appeals with jurisdiction instead of limiting them to the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The pilot program has been a success. It has not resulted in a flood of whistleblower appeals as opponents of the program asserted it would do, and it allows for potential circuit splits, which encourage sister circuits to review the laws and allows for possible Supreme Court review. It is working exactly as intended and should be made permanent before it expires in November 2017.

Founded in 1981, the Project On Government Oversight (POGO) is a nonpartisan independent watchdog that champions good government reforms. POGO’s investigations into corruption, misconduct, and conflicts of interest achieve a more effective, accountable, open, and ethical federal government. Recognizing the vital role that whistleblowers play, POGO has worked for years to study and improve the legal frameworks for disclosures and protections.

POGO supports the commonsense codification of the all circuit review program included in your bill, and we urge others to do the same.

Sincerely,



Danielle Brian
Executive Director