1	ment of such components after the date of the enactment
2	of this Act.
3	SEC. 827. ENHANCEMENT OF WHISTLEBLOWER PROTEC-
4	TIONS FOR CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES.
5	(a) In General.—Subsection (a) of section 2409 of
6	title 10, United States Code, is amended—
7	(1) by inserting "(1)" before "An employee";
8	(2) in paragraph (1), as so designated—
9	(A) by inserting "or subcontractor" after
10	"employee of a contractor";
11	(B) by striking "a Member of Congress"
12	and all that follows through "the Department
13	of Justice" and inserting "a person or body de-
14	scribed in paragraph (2)"; and
15	(C) by striking "evidence of" and all that
16	follows and inserting the following: "evidence of
17	the following:
18	"(A) Gross mismanagement of a Department of
19	Defense contract or grant, a gross waste of Depart-
20	ment funds, an abuse of authority relating to a De-
21	partment contract or grant, or a violation of law,
22	rule, or regulation related to a Department contract
23	(including the competition for or negotiation of a
24	contract) or grant.

I	"(B) Gross mismanagement of a National Aero-
2	nautics and Space Administration contract or grant,
3	a gross waste of Administration funds, an abuse of
4	authority relating to an Administration contract or
5	grant, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation re-
6	lated to an Administration contract (including the
7	competition for or negotiation of a contract) or
8	grant.
9	"(C) A substantial and specific danger to public
10	health or safety."; and
11	(3) by adding at the end the following new
12	paragraphs:
13	"(2) The persons and bodies described in this para-
14	graph are the persons and bodies as follows:
15	"(A) A Member of Congress or a representative
16	of a committee of Congress.
17	"(B) An Inspector General.
18	"(C) The Government Accountability Office.
19	"(D) An employee of the Department of De-
20	fense or the National Aeronautics and Space Admin-
21	istration, as applicable, responsible for contract over-
22	sight or management.
23	"(E) An authorized official of the Department
24	of Justice or other law enforcement agency.
25	"(F) A court or grand jury.

1	"(G) A management official or other employee
2	of the contractor or subcontractor who has the re-
3	sponsibility to investigate, discover, or address mis-
4	conduct.
5	"(3) For the purposes of paragraph (1)—
6	"(A) an employee who initiates or provides evi-
7	dence of contractor or subcontractor misconduct in
8	any judicial or administrative proceeding relating to
9	waste, fraud, or abuse on a Department of Defense
10	or National Aeronautics and Space Administration
11	contract or grant shall be deemed to have made a
12	disclosure covered by such paragraph; and
13	"(B) a reprisal described in paragraph (1) is
14	prohibited even if it is undertaken at the request of
15	a Department or Administration official, unless the
16	request takes the form of a nondiscretionary direc-
17	tive and is within the authority of the Department
18	or Administration official making the request.".
19	(b) Investigation of Complaints.—Subsection
20	(b) of such section is amended—
21	(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting "fails to al-
22	lege a violation of the prohibition in subsection (a),
23	or has previously been addressed in another Federal
24	or State judicial or administrative proceeding initi-
25	ated by the complainant "after "is frivolous":

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l	(2) in paragraph (2)—
2	(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ",
3	fails to allege a violation of the prohibition in
4	subsection (a), or has previously been addressed
5	in another Federal or State judicial or adminis-
6	trative proceeding initiated by the complainant"
7	after "is frivolous"; and
8	(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting ",
9	up to 180 days," after "such additional period
10	of time"; and
11	(3) by adding at the end the following new
12	paragraphs:
13	"(3) The Inspector General may not respond to any
14	inquiry or disclose any information from or about any per-
15	son alleging the reprisal, except to the extent that such
16	response or disclosure is—
17	"(A) made with the consent of the person alleg-
18	ing the reprisal;
19	"(B) made in accordance with the provisions of
20	section 552a of title 5 or as required by any other
21	applicable Federal law; or
22	"(C) necessary to conduct an investigation of
23	the alleged reprisal.

1	"(4) A complaint may not be brought under this sub-
2	section more than three years after the date on which the
3	alleged reprisal took place.".
4	(c) Remedy and Enforcement Authority.—Sub-
5	section (c) of such section is amended—
6	(1) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking "the com-
7	pensation (including back pay)" and inserting "com-
8	pensatory damages (including back pay)";
9	(2) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end fol-
10	lowing new sentence: "An action under this para-
11	graph may not be brought more than two years after
12	the date on which remedies are deemed to have been
13	exhausted.";
14	(3) in paragraph (4), by striking "and compen-
15	satory and exemplary damages." and inserting ",
16	compensatory and exemplary damages, and reason-
17	able attorney fees and costs. The person upon whose
18	behalf an order was issued may also file such an ac-
19	tion or join in an action filed by the head of the
20	agency.";
21	(4) in paragraph (5), by adding at the end the
22	following new sentence: "Filing such an appeal shall
23	not act to stay the enforcement of the order of the
24	head of an agency, unless a stay is specifically en-
25	tered by the court."; and

1	(5) by adding at the end the following new
2	paragraphs:
3	"(6) The legal burdens of proof specified in section
4	1221(e) of title 5 shall be controlling for the purposes of
5	any investigation conducted by an Inspector General, deci-
6	sion by the head of an agency, or judicial or administrative
7	proceeding to determine whether discrimination prohibited
8	under this section has occurred.
9	"(7) The rights and remedies provided for in this sec-
10	tion may not be waived by any agreement, policy, form,
11	or condition of employment.".
12	(d) Notification of Employees.—Such section is
13	further amended—
14	(1) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as
15	subsections (f) and (g), respectively; and
16	(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
17	lowing new subsection (d):
18	"(d) Notification of Employees.—The Secretary
19	of Defense and the Administrator of the National Aero-
20	nautics and Space Administration shall ensure that con-
21	tractors and subcontractors of the Department of Defense
22	and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration,
23	as applicable, inform their employees in writing of the
24	rights and remedies provided under this section, in the
25	predominant native language of the workforce "

1	(e) Exceptions for Intelligence Community.—
2	Such section is further amended by inserting after sub-
3	section (d), as added by subsection (d)(2) of this section,
4	the following new subsection (e):
5	"(e) Exceptions.—(1) This section shall not apply
6	to any element of the intelligence community, as defined
7	in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50
8	U.S.C. 401a(4)).
9	"(2) This section shall not apply to any disclosure
10	made by an employee of a contractor, subcontractor, or
11	grantee of an element of the intelligence community if
12	such disclosure—
13	"(A) relates to an activity of an element of the
14	intelligence community; or
15	"(B) was discovered during contract, sub-
16	contract, or grantee services provided to an element
17	of the intelligence community.".
18	(f) Abuse of Authority Defined.—Subsection
19	(g) of such section, as redesignated by subsection $(d)(1)$
20	of this section, is further amended by adding at the end
21	the following new paragraph:
22	"(6) The term 'abuse of authority' means the
23	following:
24	"(A) An arbitrary and capricious exercise
25	of authority that is inconsistent with the mis-

1	sion of the Department of Defense or the suc-
2	cessful performance of a Department contract
3	or grant.
4	"(B) An arbitrary and capricious exercise
5	of authority that is inconsistent with the mis-
6	sion of the National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
7	ministration or the successful performance of
8	an Administration contract or grant.".
9	(g) Allowability of Legal Fees.—Section
10	2324(k) of such title is amended—
11	(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "commenced
12	by the United States or a State" and inserting
13	"commenced by the United States, by a State, or by
14	a contractor employee submitting a complaint under
15	section 2409 of this title"; and
16	(2) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking "the impo-
17	sition of a monetary penalty" and inserting "the im-
18	position of a monetary penalty or an order to take
19	corrective action under section 2409 of this title".
20	(h) Construction.—Nothing in this section, or the
21	amendments made by this section, shall be construed to
22	provide any rights to disclose classified information not
23	otherwise provided by law.
24	(i) Effective Date.—

1	(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
2	this section shall take effect on the date that is 180
3	days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and
4	shall apply to—
5	(A) all contracts awarded on or after such
6	date;
7	(B) all task orders entered on or after such
8	date pursuant to contracts awarded before, on,
9	or after such date; and
10	(C) all contracts awarded before such date
11	that are modified to include a contract clause
12	providing for the applicability of such amend-
13	ments.
14	(2) Revision of supplements to the far.—
15	Not later than 180 days after the date of the enact-
16	ment of this Act, the Department of Defense Sup-
17	plement to the Federal Acquisition Regulation and
18	the National Aeronautics and Space Administration
19	Supplement to the Federal Acquisition Regulation
20	shall each be revised to implement the requirements
21	arising under the amendments made by this section.
22	(3) Inclusion of contract clause in con-
23	TRACTS AWARDED BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—At
24	the time of any major modification to a contract
25	that was awarded before the date that is 180 days

1	after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head
2	of the contracting agency shall make best efforts to
3	include in the contract a contract clause providing
4	for the applicability of the amendments made by this
5	section to the contract.
6	SEC. 828. PILOT PROGRAM FOR ENHANCEMENT OF CON-
7	TRACTOR EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER PRO-
8	TECTIONS.
9	(a) Whistleblower Protections.—
10	(1) In General.—Chapter 47 of title 41,
11	United States Code, is amended by adding at the
12	end the following new section:
13	"§ 4712. Pilot program for enhancement of contractor
14	protection from reprisal for disclosure of
15	certain information
16	"(a) Prohibition of Reprisals.—
17	"(1) In general.—An employee of a con-
18	tractor, subcontractor, or grantee may not be dis-
19	charged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated
20	against as a reprisal for disclosing to a person or
21	body described in paragraph (2) information that
22	the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross
23	mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant, a
24	gross waste of Federal funds, an abuse of authority
	,

1	and specific danger to public health or safety, or a
2	violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Fed-
3	eral contract (including the competition for or nego-
4	tiation of a contract) or grant.
5	"(2) Persons and Bodies Covered.—The
6	persons and bodies described in this paragraph are
7	the persons and bodies as follows:
8	"(A) A Member of Congress or a rep-
9	resentative of a committee of Congress.
10	"(B) An Inspector General.
11	"(C) The Government Accountability Of-
12	fice.
13	"(D) A Federal employee responsible for
14	contract or grant oversight or management at
15	the relevant agency.
16	"(E) An authorized official of the Depart-
17	ment of Justice or other law enforcement agen-
18	cy.
19	"(F) A court or grand jury.
20	"(G) A management official or other em-
21	ployee of the contractor, subcontractor, or
22	grantee who has the responsibility to inves-
23	tigate, discover, or address misconduct.
24	"(3) Rules of construction.—For the pur-
25	poses of paragraph (1)—

1	"(A) an employee who initiates or provides
2	evidence of contractor, subcontractor, or grant-
3	ee misconduct in any judicial or administrative
4	proceeding relating to waste, fraud, or abuse on
5	a Federal contract or grant shall be deemed to
6	have made a disclosure covered by such para-
7	graph; and
8	"(B) a reprisal described in paragraph (1)
9	is prohibited even if it is undertaken at the re-
10	quest of an executive branch official, unless the
11	request takes the form of a non-discretionary
12	directive and is within the authority of the exec-
13	utive branch official making the request.
14	"(b) Investigation of Complaints.—
15	"(1) Submission of complaint.—A person
16	who believes that the person has been subjected to
17	a reprisal prohibited by subsection (a) may submit
18	a complaint to the Inspector General of the executive
19	agency involved. Unless the Inspector General deter-
20	mines that the complaint is frivolous, fails to allege
21	a violation of the prohibition in subsection (a), or
22	has previously been addressed in another Federal or
23	State judicial or administrative proceeding initiated
24	by the complainant, the Inspector General shall in-
25	vestigate the complaint and upon completion of such

I	investigation, submit a report of the findings of the
2	investigation to the person, the contractor or grantee
3	concerned, and the head of the agency.
4	"(2) Inspector general action.—
5	"(A) DETERMINATION OR SUBMISSION OF
6	REPORT ON FINDINGS.—Except as provided
7	under subparagraph (B), the Inspector General
8	shall make a determination that a complaint is
9	frivolous, fails to allege a violation of the prohi-
10	bition in subsection (a), or has previously been
11	addressed in another Federal or State judicial
12	or administrative proceeding initiated by the
13	complainant or submit a report under para-
14	graph (1) within 180 days after receiving the
15	complaint.
16	"(B) Extension of time.—If the Inspec-
17	tor General is unable to complete an investiga-
18	tion in time to submit a report within the 180-
19	day period specified in subparagraph (A) and
20	the person submitting the complaint agrees to
21	an extension of time, the Inspector General
22	shall submit a report under paragraph (1) with-
23	in such additional period of time, up to 180
24	days, as shall be agreed upon between the In-

1	spector General and the person submitting the
2	complaint.
3	"(3) Prohibition on disclosure.—The In-
4	spector General may not respond to any inquiry or
5	disclose any information from or about any person
6	alleging the reprisal, except to the extent that such
7	response or disclosure is—
8	"(A) made with the consent of the person
9	alleging the reprisal;
10	"(B) made in accordance with the provi-
11	sions of section 552a of title 5 or as required
12	by any other applicable Federal law; or
13	"(C) necessary to conduct an investigation
14	of the alleged reprisal.
15	"(4) Time limitation.—A complaint may not
16	be brought under this subsection more than three
17	years after the date on which the alleged reprisal
18	took place.
19	"(e) Remedy and Enforcement Authority.—
20	"(1) In general.—Not later than 30 days
21	after receiving an Inspector General report pursuant
22	to subsection (b), the head of the executive agency
23	concerned shall determine whether there is sufficient
24	basis to conclude that the contractor or grantee con-
25	cerned has subjected the complainant to a reprisal

1	prohibited by subsection (a) and shall either issue an
2	order denying relief or shall take one or more of the
3	following actions:
4	"(A) Order the contractor or grantee to
5	take affirmative action to abate the reprisal.
6	"(B) Order the contractor or grantee to re-
7	instate the person to the position that the per-
8	son held before the reprisal, together with com-
9	pensatory damages (including back pay), em-
10	ployment benefits, and other terms and condi-
11	tions of employment that would apply to the
12	person in that position if the reprisal had not
13	been taken.
14	"(C) Order the contractor or grantee to
15	pay the complainant an amount equal to the
16	aggregate amount of all costs and expenses (in-
17	cluding attorneys' fees and expert witnesses'
18	fees) that were reasonably incurred by the com-
19	plainant for, or in connection with, bringing the
20	complaint regarding the reprisal, as determined
21	by the head of the executive agency.
22	"(2) Exhaustion of remedies.—If the head
23	of an executive agency issues an order denying relief
24	under paragraph (1) or has not issued an order
25	within 210 days after the submission of a complaint

1	under subsection (b), or in the case of an extension
2	of time under paragraph (b)(2)(B), not later than
3	30 days after the expiration of the extension of time,
4	and there is no showing that such delay is due to
5	the bad faith of the complainant, the complainant
6	shall be deemed to have exhausted all administrative
7	remedies with respect to the complaint, and the com-
8	plainant may bring a de novo action at law or equity
9	against the contractor or grantee to seek compen-
10	satory damages and other relief available under this
11	section in the appropriate district court of the
12	United States, which shall have jurisdiction over
13	such an action without regard to the amount in con-
14	troversy. Such an action shall, at the request of ei-
15	ther party to the action, be tried by the court with
16	a jury. An action under this paragraph may not be
17	brought more than two years after the date on which
18	remedies are deemed to have been exhausted.
19	"(3) Admissibility of evidence.—An Inspec-
20	tor General determination and an agency head order
21	denying relief under paragraph (2) shall be admis-
22	sible in evidence in any de novo action at law or eq-
23	uity brought pursuant to this subsection.
24	"(4) Enforcement of orders.—Whenever a
25	person fails to comply with an order issued under

paragraph (1), the head of the executive agency concerned shall file an action for enforcement of such order in the United States district court for a district in which the reprisal was found to have occurred. In any action brought under this paragraph, the court may grant appropriate relief, including injunctive relief, compensatory and exemplary damages, and attorney fees and costs. The person upon whose behalf an order was issued may also file such an action or join in an action filed by the head of the executive agency.

"(5) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Any person adversely affected or aggrieved by an order issued under paragraph (1) may obtain review of the order's conformance with this subsection, and any regulations issued to carry out this section, in the United States court of appeals for a circuit in which the reprisal is alleged in the order to have occurred. No petition seeking such review may be filed more than 60 days after issuance of the order by the head of the executive agency. Review shall conform to chapter 7 of title 5. Filing such an appeal shall not act to stay the enforcement of the order of the head of an executive agency, unless a stay is specifically entered by the court.

1	"(6) Burdens of proof.—The legal burdens
2	of proof specified in section 1221(e) of title 5 shall
3	be controlling for the purposes of any investigation
4	conducted by an Inspector General, decision by the
5	head of an executive agency, or judicial or adminis-
6	trative proceeding to determine whether discrimina-
7	tion prohibited under this section has occurred.
8	"(7) RIGHTS AND REMEDIES NOT WAIVABLE.—
9	The rights and remedies provided for in this section
10	may not be waived by any agreement, policy, form,
11	or condition of employment.
12	"(d) Notification of Employees.—The head of
13	each executive agency shall ensure that contractors, sub-
14	contractors, and grantees of the agency inform their em-
15	ployees in writing of the rights and remedies provided
16	under this section, in the predominant native language of
17	the workforce.
18	"(e) Construction.—Nothing in this section may
19	be construed to authorize the discharge of, demotion of,
20	or discrimination against an employee for a disclosure
21	other than a disclosure protected by subsection (a) or to
22	modify or derogate from a right or remedy otherwise avail-
23	able to the employee.
24	"(f) Exceptions.—(1) This section shall not apply
25	to any element of the intelligence community, as defined

1	in section 3(4) of the National Security Act of 1947 (50
2	U.S.C. 401a(4)).
3	"(2) This section shall not apply to any disclosure
4	made by an employee of a contractor, subcontractor, or
5	grantee of an element of the intelligence community if
6	such disclosure—
7	"(A) relates to an activity of an element of the
8	intelligence community; or
9	"(B) was discovered during contract, sub-
10	contract, or grantee services provided to an element
11	of the intelligence community.
12	"(g) Definitions.—In this section:
13	"(1) The term 'abuse of authority' means an
14	arbitrary and capricious exercise of authority that is
15	inconsistent with the mission of the executive agency
16	concerned or the successful performance of a con-
17	tract or grant of such agency.
18	"(2) The term 'Inspector General' means an In-
19	spector General appointed under the Inspector Gen-
20	eral Act of 1978 and any Inspector General that re-
21	ceives funding from, or has oversight over contracts
22	or grants awarded for or on behalf of, the executive
23	agency concerned.
24	"(h) Construction.—Nothing in this section, or the
25	amendments made by this section, shall be construed to

1	provide any rights to disclose classified information not
2	otherwise provided by law.
3	"(i) Duration of Section.—This section shall be
4	in effect for the four-year period beginning on the date
5	of the enactment of this section.".
6	(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sec-
7	tions at the beginning of such chapter is amended
8	by adding at the end the following new item:
	"4712. Pilot program for enhancement of contractor protection from reprisal for disclosure of certain information.".
9	(b) Effective Date.—
10	(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by
11	subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is
12	180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
13	and shall, during the period section 4712 of title 41,
14	United States Code, as added by such subsection, is
15	in effect, apply to—
16	(A) all contracts and grants awarded on or
17	after such date;
18	(B) all task orders entered on or after such
19	date pursuant to contracts awarded before, on,
20	or after such date; and
21	(C) all contracts awarded before such date
22	that are modified to include a contract clause
23	providing for the applicability of such amend-
24	ments.

l	(2) REVISION OF FEDERAL ACQUISITION REGU-
2	LATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of
3	the enactment of this Act, the Federal Acquisition
4	Regulation shall be revised to implement the require-
5	ments arising under the amendments made by this
6	section.
7	(3) Inclusion of contract clause in con-
8	TRACTS AWARDED BEFORE EFFECTIVE DATE.—At
9	the time of any major modification to a contract
10	that was awarded before the date that is 180 days
11	after the date of the enactment of this Act, the head
12	of the contracting agency shall make best efforts to
13	include in the contract a contract clause providing
14	for the applicability of the amendments made by this
15	section to the contract.
16	(c) Suspension of Effectiveness of Section
17	4705 OF TITLE 41, UNITED STATES CODE, WHILE PILOT
18	PROGRAM IS IN EFFECT.—Section 4705 of title 41,
19	United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the
20	following new subsection:
21	"(f) Four-year Suspension of Effectiveness
22	WHILE PILOT PROGRAM IS IN EFFECT.—While section
23	4712 of this title is in effect, this section shall not be in
24	effect.".

1	(d) Allowability of Legal Fees.—Section 4310
2	of title 41, United States Code, is amended—
3	(1) in subsection (b), by striking "commenced
4	by the Federal Government or a State" and insert-
5	ing "commenced by the Federal Government, by a
6	State, or by a contractor or grantee employee sub-
7	mitting a complaint under section 4712 of this
8	title"; and
9	(2) in subsection (c)(3), by striking "the impo-
10	sition of a monetary penalty" and inserting "the im-
11	position of a monetary penalty or an order to take
12	corrective action under section 4712 of this title".
13	(e) Government Accountability Office Study
14	AND REPORT.—
15	(1) Study.—Not later than three years after
16	the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comp-
17	troller General of the United States shall begin con-
18	ducting a study to evaluate the implementation of
19	section 4712 of title 41, United States Code, as
20	added by subsection (a).
21	(2) Report.—Not later than four years after
22	the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comp-
23	troller General shall submit to Congress a report on
24	the results of the study required by paragraph (1)

1	with such findings and recommendations as the
2	Comptroller General considers appropriate.
3	SEC. 829. EXTENSION OF CONTRACTOR CONFLICT OF IN-
4	TEREST LIMITATIONS.
5	(a) Assessment of Extension of Limitations to
6	CERTAIN ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS AND CONTRACTS.—
7	Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment
8	of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall review the guid-
9	ance on personal conflicts of interest for contractor em-
10	ployees issued pursuant to section 841(a) of the Duncan
11	Hunter National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal
12	Year 2009 (Public Law 110–417; 122 Stat. 4537) in
13	order to determine whether it would be in the best interest
14	of the Department of Defense and the taxpayers to extend
15	such guidance to personal conflicts of interest by con-
16	tractor personnel performing any of the following:
17	(1) Functions other than acquisition functions
18	that are closely associated with inherently govern-
19	mental functions (as that term is defined in section
20	2383(b)(3) of title 10, United States Code).
21	(2) Personal services contracts (as that term is
22	defined in section 2330a(g)(5) of title 10, United
23	States Code).
24	(3) Contracts for staff augmentation services
25	(as that term is defined in section 808(d)(3) of the