

**Floor Remarks**  
**H.R. 6395 FY2021 NDAA**  
**Amendment #92**  
**Rep. Gerald E. Connolly (D-VA)**

- M\_. Chair, I rise today to offer an amendment to the FY2021 National Defense Authorization Act that would clarify that both subcontractors and subgrantees who provide protected disclosures of federal waste, fraud, and abuse are protected from retaliation.
- This provision closes a loophole in federal whistleblower protection laws.
- The amendment is particularly important for agencies that engage in significant grant activities, like the Department of Education, which provides grants to state-level agencies who then provide subgrants to local governments.
- Sometimes it's teachers and school administrators who are in the best position to tell federal leaders where and how federal dollars are misspent
- This language ensures that those with information on the waste, fraud, or abuse of federal funding report it – and that those who are brave enough to report such wrongdoing are protected from retaliation.
- I thank my colleague Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick for cosponsoring this amendment.
- M\_. Chair, I yield back.