

# AAUP

American Association of University Professors

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June 16, 2009

Senator Daniel K. Akaka, Chairman  
Senator George V. Voinovich, Acting Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the  
District of Columbia  
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
605 Senate Hart Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Akaka and Acting Ranking Member Voinovich:

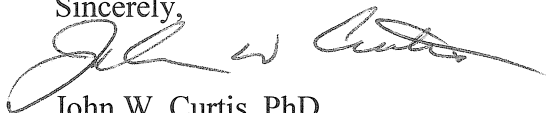
I write to express the support of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) for measures to enhance protections for federal employee whistleblowers contained in S. 372, The Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2009. College and university faculty members frequently serve as contractors, consultants, external reviewers, and even employees on federal government projects. They need to be assured that they and their federal employee colleagues can report improprieties in the expenditure of federal funds without fear of retaliation. The AAUP's advocacy of strong protection for federal whistleblowers is part of our longstanding commitment to scientific integrity and open and transparent government as vital components of American democracy.

To this end, the 95<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the AAUP passed the following resolution on June 13, 2009:

The American Association of University Professors expresses its support for the inclusion, without exception, of the option for jury trial in the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2009.

On behalf of our approximately 47,000 members at colleges and universities around the country, I look forward to working with you and the other members of the subcommittee to ensure that strengthened whistleblower protections are enacted into law in this Congress. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any further information or assistance; my direct telephone is (202) 737-5900 extension 143, and e-mail address [jcurtis@aaup.org](mailto:jcurtis@aaup.org).

Sincerely,



John W. Curtis, PhD  
Director of Research and Public Policy