**A Bill to Protect the Free Speech of**

**Civil Servants**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CONGRESS HERE ASSEMBLED THAT:

**Section 1**. Under both the Ethics in Government Act of 1978 and the No FEAR Act of 2002, postings to social media shall be considered protected acts of whistleblowing covered by the provisions in each act.

**Section 2**. **A.** Social media shall be considered both named and anonymous communication through electronic means, intended to be seen by a wide variety of people.

**B**. Whistleblowing is the act of identifying wrongdoing by a public official. Under current law, retaliation against whistleblowers for their revelations is a violation of law.

**C**. Under the provisions of this legislation, forced reviews of electronic devices to determine the identity of whistleblowers shall constitute a violation of each act named above.

**Section 3.** The Department of Justice will review social media posts to determine whether they meet the definition of whistleblowing and shall identify violations of current law.

**SECTION 4.** This will take effect on June 1, 2017.

**Section 5.** All laws in conflict with this legislation are hereby declared null and void.

*Introduced for Congressional Debate by \_\_\_\_\_\_.*