



December 9, 2020

Chairman Pat Roberts and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow  
U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, & Forestry  
328A Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC, 20510  
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*via fax* (202) 228-2125

Dear Chairman Pat Roberts and Ranking Member Debbie Stabenow:

I am writing to strongly support the passage of the CFTC Fund Management Act, which will ensure that whistleblowers who have risked their careers, and sometimes even their lives, will be effectively supported by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC). Any delay in the payment of awards that these whistleblowers have earned will cause significant hardship to courageous whistleblowers and will also undermine public confidence in the whistleblower program.

We understand that if the CFTC Fund Management Act is not immediately passed the fund used to pay whistleblowers will be depleted, causing significant harm to the public interest and undermining an important whistleblower law Congress passed as part of the Dodd-Frank Act. It is absolutely imperative that Congress work quickly in a bi-partisan manner to ensure that the CFTC is fully able to compensate whistleblowers. The alternative would be disastrous for the program.

I have had the pleasure of representing whistleblowers who are participating in the CFTC whistleblower program. Based on my direct first-hand experience I can testify that the CFTC Office of the Whistleblower is highly professional plays an instrumental role in both protecting whistleblowers and ensuring that their evidence is effectively used in investigations. This Office plays a key role in protecting the commodities markets and enhancing law enforcement by effectively using whistleblower-information to trigger important investigations and provide evidence needed to prosecute fraudsters.

My perception of the program is reinforced by the statement from the CFTC's Division of Enforcement in its 2020 Annual Report: "The Division's whistleblower program continued to experience significant advancement and growth. . . . Indeed, between 30 to 40% of the Division's ongoing investigations now involve some whistleblower component."

Already, the CFTC whistleblower program has paid over \$120 million in whistleblower awards and has recovered over \$1 billion in sanctions against criminals and fraudsters. The CFTC Office of the Whistleblower needs support. It is a paradigm of a successful government program. It achieves the circle of accountability that is absolutely critical for all successful anti-fraud programs. It uses information from whistleblowers to obtain sanctions from wrongdoers. The money obtained from the wrongdoers is used to award whistleblowers, pay restitution, reimburse taxpayers, and ensure that the whistleblower office functions in a highly effective timely and competent manner.

Passing this bill should be one of the highest priorities of the current Congress. Don't leave whistleblowers out in the cold. The proposed CFTC Fund Management Act is essential in ensuring that the office of the whistleblower has the funds to continue its outstanding work on behalf of whistleblowers and the public interest.

Respectfully submitted,

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