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<b>G</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:           CHRISS WINSTON

SUBJECT:       WHISTLEBLOWER SIGNING

Attached are brief remarks to be given at the signing of the "Whistleblower" legislation on April 10. This short speech takes an even-handed approach between the need to protect whistleblowers, and the need to support the vast majority of senior government managers who are doing a good job.

(Davis)  
4/7/89/noon  
Draft: One  
Title: whistle

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: SIGNING OF "WHISTLEBLOWERS"  
Room 450  
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2 p.m.

Today I am pleased to sign S. 20, the "Whistleblower Protection Act of 1989." You know, when I was growing up, a whistleblower was a guy in a funny cap and a black-and-white shirt who was always throwing down a flag.

Perhaps that's an apt comparison. A whistleblower is, after all, the one who cries "foul" to waste, fraud and abuse. In short, a true whistleblower is a public servant of the highest order. I share the determination of the Congress that we do everything possible to ensure that these dedicated men and women should not be fired, rebuked or suffer financially for their honesty and good judgment.

This bill will go a long way toward this goal, by strengthening the protections and procedural rights available to those federal employees who report misdeeds and mismanagement.

Toward this end, the bill I am signing today will enhance the authority of the Office of Special Counsel to protect whistleblowers and other employees victimized by prohibited

personnel practices. Whistleblowers will also now be allowed to take their cases to the Merit Systems Protection Board.

Let me also reaffirm my confidence in the competence and skills of our senior executive and career managers and supervisors, both civilian and military. Let us remember that most government managers respond promptly and effectively to problems like those disclosed by whistleblowers even without special provisions of the law.

Finally, this bill is an example of how the Administration and Congress can work together to sharpen and improve legislation. For this and many other reasons, I am delighted to now sign S-20 into law.