

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**House Concurrent
Resolution No. 1043**

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1043 - By: BANZ of the House.

A Concurrent Resolution calling on states to audit certain grants to identify funding for ACORN; and calling on states to end support for ACORN.

1 WHEREAS, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN)
2 was founded in 1970 with the mission of increasing voter participation, delivering
3 services to inner-city neighborhoods, community organizing, and carrying out issue
4 campaigns; and

5 WHEREAS, ACORN is an organization guilty of violating numerous laws and
6 aiding and abetting criminal activity; and

7 WHEREAS, in 2003, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) found that
8 ACORN had illegally suppressed the ability of its employees to organize a union. The
9 NLRB said, “By interrogating employees about their union activities, by informing
10 employees that other employees have been discharged because of the union, by
11 threatening employees that selecting the union to represent them will be futile, and by
12 threatening employees with discharge, respondent has violated Section 8(a) of the act”;
13 and

1 WHEREAS, ACORN workers have been convicted of voter registration crimes in the
2 following states: Colorado, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and
3 Washington; and

4 WHEREAS, on November 14, 2008, the Catholic Campaign for Human
5 Development stopped all contributions to ACORN, citing “[S]erious concerns about
6 national ACORN’s financial accountability, transparency, governance and organizational
7 integrity”, and “reports of ACORN involvement in alleged voter registration fraud and
8 political partisanship”; and

9 WHEREAS, ACORN workers were videotaped in Baltimore, New York City, San
10 Diego, San Bernadino, and Washington, D.C. aiding and abetting prostitution, child
11 prostitution, human trafficking, illegal immigration, and tax fraud; and

12 WHEREAS, ACORN workers instructed individuals to falsify tax forms by listing
13 child prostitutes as “dependents”; and

14 WHEREAS, on September 11, 2009, the United States Department of Commerce
15 ended its partnership on the 2010 Census with ACORN, citing a lack of confidence in the
16 organization; and

17 WHEREAS, on September 16, 2009, White House Spokesman Robert Gibbs
18 remarked, “The conduct you see on those tapes is completely unacceptable”; and

19 WHEREAS, on September 15, 2009, the U.S. Senate voted 83-7 to prohibit federal
20 funds from going to ACORN; and

21 WHEREAS, on September 17, 2009, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 345-75
22 to prohibit federal funds from going to ACORN; and

1 WHEREAS, a large portion of ACORN's funding comes from government grants;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, since 1994 ACORN has received more than \$53 million in government
4 grants.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
6 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA
7 LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

8 THAT the State of Oklahoma calls on states to engage the appropriate state
9 auditing authority to audit all grants in order to identify funding for ACORN and groups
10 linked to ACORN.

11 THAT Oklahoma calls on all states to immediately end support for ACORN and
12 groups linked to ACORN.

13 DIRECT TO CALENDAR.