

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 52nd Legislature (2010)

3 HOUSE CONCURRENT
4 RESOLUTION 1043

By: Banz

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

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

10
11
12 WHEREAS, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform
13 Now (ACORN) was founded in 1970 with the mission of increasing voter
14 participation, delivering services to inner-city neighborhoods,
15 community organizing, and carrying out issue campaigns; and

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

18 WHEREAS, in 2003, the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)
19 found that ACORN had illegally suppressed the ability of its
20 employees to organize a union. The NLRB said, "By interrogating
21 employees about their union activities, by informing employees that
22 other employees have been discharged because of the union, by
23 threatening employees that selecting the union to represent them

1 will be futile, and by threatening employees with discharge,
2 respondent has violated Section 8(a) of the act"; and

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

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

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

16 WHEREAS, ACORN workers instructed individuals to falsify tax
17 forms by listing child prostitutes as "dependents"; and

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

21 WHEREAS, on September 16, 2009, White House Spokesman Robert
22 Gibbs remarked, "The conduct you see on those tapes is completely
23 unacceptable"; and

24

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

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

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

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

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
11 OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 52ND OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE, THE SENATE
12 CONCURRING THEREIN:

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

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

18

19 52-2-8550 LRB 01/27/10

20

21

22

23

24