

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 5, 2009

The Honorable John Olver  
Chairman

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

Room 2358-A Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Tom Latham  
Ranking Member

Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Olver and Ranking Member Latham:

We are writing to express our support for language included by the Senate in the FY 2010 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act regarding the eligibility of the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now (ACORN). On September 14, the Senate passed an amendment with bipartisan support by a vote of 83 to 7 to prohibit ACORN from being eligible for any funds under the bill.

We are deeply troubled by the video obtained of ACORN employees offering to falsify tax documents and help obtain a mortgage for individuals purporting to be engaged in prostitution. Such actions should disqualify ACORN from receiving taxpayer-funded HUD grants.

The recent bipartisan support in the House for a federal ban on funding for ACORN in The Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act is an important step towards fiscal responsibility and more accountability of taxpayer dollars. Organizations that receive federal funding should be held to the highest ethical and legal standards.

As you move towards conference, we ask that you maintain this language in the final conference report. Thank you for your consideration of this request and for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely,



Walt Minnick  
Member of Congress



Betsy Markey  
Member of Congress



Brad Ellsworth  
Member of Congress



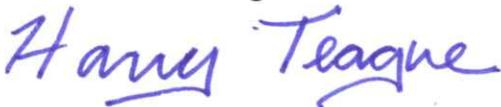
Charlie Melancon  
Member of Congress



Jason Altmire  
Member of Congress



Harry Mitchell  
Member of Congress



Harry Teague  
Member of Congress



Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



Jim Matheson  
Member of Congress



Carol Shea-Porter  
Member of Congress



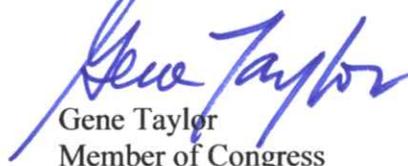
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Member of Congress



John Tanner  
Member of Congress



Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress



Gene Taylor  
Member of Congress



Joe Donnelly  
Member of Congress



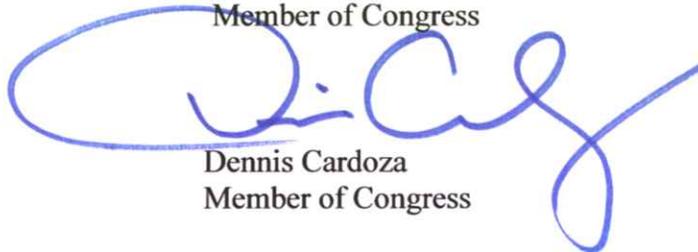
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Member of Congress



Kathy Dahlkemper  
Member of Congress



Bart Gordon  
Member of Congress



Dennis Cardoza  
Member of Congress



Frank Kratovil  
Member of Congress



Parker Griffith  
Member of Congress



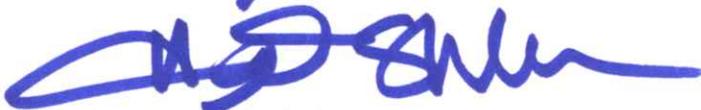
Dan Boren  
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Lincoln Davis  
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Jim Cooper  
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Heath Shuler  
Member of Congress



Mike McIntyre  
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Bobby Bright  
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Christopher Carney  
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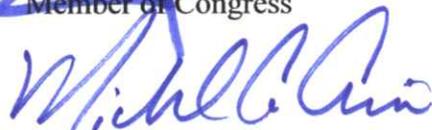
Travis Childers  
Member of Congress



Tim Holden  
Member of Congress



Zack Space  
Member of Congress



Michael Arcuri  
Member of Congress



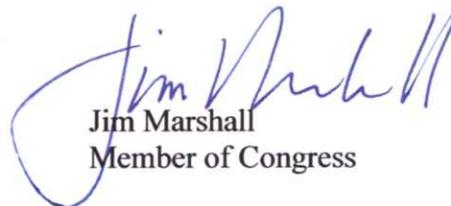
Stephanie Herseth Sandlin  
Member of Congress



Ben Chandler  
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Leonard Boswell  
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Jim Marshall  
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Mike Thompson  
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