



## National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers Recognizes Ohio Office of Budget and Management for Shared Services**

LEXINGTON, Kentucky– The National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers and Treasurers (NASACT) conferred its NASACT President’s Award of Excellence upon the State of Ohio. The award is in recognition of the innovation and forward-thinking represented by the creation of the Ohio Shared Services.

Ohio launched Ohio Shared Services in July 2009 under the leadership of the Ohio Office of Budget and Management and the Ohio Department of Administrative Services. Ohio Shared Services provides an array of centralized administrative services to Ohio state agencies in areas such as travel and expense reimbursement, vendor maintenance, document imaging, along with offering services from a state of the art contact center that handles a variety of employee, state agency and business vendor inquiries. It is the first public sector shared services center for financial business processes in the United States. The shared services business model has been adopted widely in the private sector in recent decades. The success of such initiatives in the private sector in improving efficiency of operations while strengthening customer service capabilities, planning, budgeting and program coordination, coupled with IT advances and resource constraints, are encouraging growing use of shared services by government and educational institutions.

NASACT congratulates Ohio Governor Ted Strickland and the other leaders within Ohio’s state government on its efforts to implement this private sector best practice in the public sector.

“Shared services is an approach widely proven in the business world that has great potential to help public sector organizations increase their performance even in the midst of tremendous resource challenges and budget constraints,” said Glen B. Gainer III, NASACT’s president and state auditor of West Virginia. “Ohio deserves great credit for helping show other states a major way forward in these tough times.”

“Shared Services is a major part of our effort to transform the way Ohio does business, bringing Ohio government in line with the best practices used by Ohio businesses to operate more effectively in a 21<sup>st</sup> century economy. Shared Services would not be possible without our innovative partnership with Ohio Civil Service Employees Association, our largest union, and our collaborative partnership with leaders across state government,” said J. Pari Sabety, director of Ohio’s Office of Budget and Management. “We greatly appreciate NASACT’s recognition of our efforts to move forward with Ohio Shared Services and our commitment to operate in a smarter way while modernizing state government.”

Ohio has contracted with Accenture to help develop and implement shared services, and is using Oracle software applications for the information technology infrastructure.

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