

## ALEC EXPOSED

"ALEC" has long been a secretive collaboration between Big Business and "conservative" politicians. Behind closed doors, they ghostwrite "model" bills to be introduced in state capitols across the country. This agenda—underwritten by global corporations—includes major tax loopholes for big industries and the super rich, proposals to offshore U.S. jobs and gut minimum wage, and efforts to weaken public health, safety, and environmental protections. Although many of these bills have become law, until now, their origin has been largely unknown. With **ALEC EXPOSED**, the Center for Media and Democracy hopes more Americans will study the bills to understand the depth and breadth of how big corporations are changing the legal rules and undermining democracy across the nation.

### ALEC's Corporate Board --in recent past or present

- AT&T Services, Inc.
  - centerpoint360
  - UPS
  - Bayer Corporation
  - GlaxoSmithKline
  - Energy Future Holdings
  - Johnson & Johnson
  - Coca-Cola Company
  - PhRMA
  - Kraft Foods, Inc.
  - Coca-Cola Co.
  - Pfizer Inc.
  - Reed Elsevier, Inc.
  - DIAGEO
  - Peabody Energy
  - Intuit, Inc.
  - Koch Industries, Inc.
  - ExxonMobil
  - Verizon
  - Reynolds American Inc.
  - Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.
  - Salt River Project
  - Altria Client Services, Inc.
  - American Bail Coalition
  - State Farm Insurance
- For more on these corporations, search at [www.SourceWatch.org](http://www.SourceWatch.org).

**DID YOU KNOW?** Corporations VOTED to adopt this. Through ALEC, global companies work as "equals" in "unison" with politicians to write laws to govern your life. Big Business has "a VOICE and a VOTE," according to newly exposed documents. **DO YOU?**

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### Constitutional Amendment For Victim's Rights

Did you know the NRA--the National Rifle Association--was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

#### Summary

This Act would establish a bill of rights for victims of violent crimes.

#### Model Legislation

{Title, enacting clause, etc.}

**Section 1. {Title.}** "This Act may be cited as the Constitutional Amendment for Victims Rights"

**Section 2. {Definitions.}** As used in this Act:

(A) "Victim" means a person against whom the criminal offense has been committed or, if the person is killed or incapacitated, the person's spouse, parent, child or other lawful representative, except if the person is in custody for an offense or is the accused.

#### Section 3. {Main Provisions}

(A) To preserve and protect victims' rights to justice and due process, a victim of crime has a right:

(1) To be treated with fairness, respect, and dignity, and to be free from intimidation, harassment, or abuse, throughout the criminal justice process.

(2) To be informed, upon request, when the accused or convicted person is released from custody or has escaped.

(3) To be present at and, upon request, to be informed of all criminal proceedings where the defendant has the right to be present.

(4) To be heard at any proceeding involving a post-arrest release decision, a negotiated plea, and sentencing.

(5) To refuse an interview, deposition, or other discovery request by the defendant, the defendant's attorney, or other person acting on behalf of the defendant.

(6) To confer with the prosecution, after the crime against the victim has been charged, before trial or before any disposition of the case and to be informed of the disposition.

(7) To read pre-sentence reports relating to the crime against the victim when they are available to the defendant.

(8) To receive prompt restitution from the person or persons convicted of the criminal conduct that caused the victim's loss or injury.

(9) To be heard at any proceeding when any post-conviction release from confinement is being considered.

(10) To a speedy trial or disposition and prompt and final conclusion of the case after the conviction and sentence.

(11) To have all rules governing criminal procedure and the admissibility of evidence in all criminal proceedings protect victims' rights and to have these rules be subject to amendment or repeal by the legislature to ensure the protection of these rights.

(12) To be informed of victims' constitutional rights.

(B) A victim's exercise of any right granted by this section shall not be grounds for dismissing any criminal proceeding or setting aside any conviction or sentence.

(C) The legislature, or the people by initiative or referendum, have the authority to enact substantive and procedural laws to define, implement, preserve and protect the rights guaranteed to victims by this section, including the authority to extend any of these rights to juvenile proceedings.

(D) The enumeration in the constitution of certain rights for victims shall not be construed to deny or disparage others granted by the legislature or retained by victims.

#### Section 4. {Severability clause.}

Section 5. {Repealer clause.}

Section 6. {Effective date.}

*ALEC's Sourcebook of American State Legislation 1995*

**About Us and ALEC EXPOSED.** The Center for Media and Democracy reports on corporate spin and government propaganda. We are located in Madison, Wisconsin, and publish [www.PRWatch.org](http://www.PRWatch.org), [www.SourceWatch.org](http://www.SourceWatch.org), and now [www.ALECexposed.org](http://www.ALECexposed.org). For more information contact: [editor@prwatch.org](mailto:editor@prwatch.org) or 608-260-9713.

Center for Media  
and Democracy's  
quick summary:

This is part of a bundle of 1995 ALEC bills that aim to include victims in the criminal justice process.