

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.

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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Parity and Certainty in Regulatory Treatment of High Speed Internet Access Services and Broadband Services and Providers Act

Summary

This Act provides for regulatory parity and certainty at the state level in the critical areas of high-speed Internet access services and broadband services. The Act prohibits state commissions from imposing regulations in these areas, regardless of the technology or medium used to provide such services. The Act further provides, however, that the incumbent local exchange provider must continue comply with the unbundling and other requirements of the Federal Communications Commission.

Model Legislation

Section 1. {Legislative Findings} The legislature hereby finds and declares:

- (A) The cable modem service offered by cable operators and other technologies such as satellite that are used for high-speed access to the Internet are functionally equivalent to, and compete with, digital subscriber line service and other broadband services offered by local exchange carriers.
- (B) Cable modem services and digital subscriber line services are subject to disparate regulatory treatment by the Federal Government and by State and local governments.
- (C) Competing and functionally equivalent products and services should be treated in the same manner, regardless of who provides such products or services.
- (D) A deregulatory environment should apply to providers of high-speed Internet access services and broadband services, regardless of the platform used to provide such services.
- (E) Government regulation should not favor or advantage one class of competitors among competitors offering similar products or services.
- (F) The deployment of digital subscriber line service, in particular, has been restrained by regulatory requirements that are inappropriate for a competitive service offered by various providers.
- (G) Inappropriate regulation imposes needless costs and results in higher consumer costs.
- (H) Lower consumer costs will accelerate demand for high-speed Internet access services.
- (I) Deregulation across broadband platforms will provide incentives to increase deployment of high speed Internet services and broadband services, bringing the benefits of such services to communities in the form of enhancements in medicine, education, national security, work from home, and other benefits.
- (J) When all providers of high speed Internet access services and broadband services compete in a free market environment, consumers will benefit from increased choices and lower prices.

Section 2. {Definitions}

"High speed Internet access service" or "broadband service" means, as used in this Act, those services and underlying facilities that provide upstream, from customer to provider, or downstream, from provider to customer, transmission to or from the Internet or have the capability to transmit information in excess of one hundred forty four (144) kilobits per second, regardless of the technology or medium used including, but not limited to, wireless, copper wire, fiber optic cable, or coaxial cable, to provide such service.

Section 3. {Main Provisions}

A. Neither the Commission, nor any unit of local government shall, by entering any order, adopting any rule, or otherwise taking any agency action, impose any regulation upon a provider of high speed Internet access service or broadband service in its provision of such service, regardless of technology or medium used to provide such service.

Did you know that global telecommunications company AT&T was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

B. An incumbent local exchange telecommunications service provider (ILEC) subject to the provisions of 47 U.S.C., Section 251(c) shall be required to provide unbundled access to network elements, including but not limited to loops, subloops, and collocation space within the facilities of the ILEC, to the extent specifically required under Federal Communications Commission regulations or any successor regulations issued by the Federal Communications Commission.

C. Nothing in this section shall effect the assessment of any company under Article (property tax provisions).

Adopted by ALEC's Telecommunications & Information Technology Task Force at the States and Nation Policy Summit December 11, 2002. Approved by full ALEC Board of Directors January, 2003.

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