

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.

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?**

Home → [Model Legislation](#) → Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development

Resolution to Eliminate the Clean Air Act's Employee Trip Reduction Provision

Summary

ALEC's model calls for an amendment to the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990; the Provision in the Clean Air Act which calls for an Employee Trip Reduction should be changed to an option in each state's implementation plan.

Model Resolution

WHEREAS, through the federal Clean Air Act and its amendments, the states are required to undertake various mandated steps to reduce air pollution and come into compliance with federal law; and

WHEREAS, a balance must be struck between the steps to be taken to reduce air pollution and the adverse impact those steps may have upon each state's economy, business climate, and cost of government; and

WHEREAS, under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, the states classified as "extreme" or "severe" non-attainment areas are required to adopt employee commute options and trip reduction laws; and

WHEREAS, companies having one hundred or more employees who will be required to adopt employee trip reduction strategies will in effect be imposing onerous and burdensome travel restrictions on the employees of companies; and

WHEREAS, the federal government has launched this ill-conceived initiative through the Clean Air Act and its amendments, modeled after California legislation; and

WHEREAS, the ineffectiveness and huge cost of California's program are now coming to the surface; and

WHEREAS, trip reduction efforts have cost California between \$136 and \$197 million per year; and

WHEREAS, the costs experienced by California amount to approximately \$3,000 per car taken off the road and \$232 per employee; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has estimated that it will cost the economies of just the ten "extreme" and "severe" non-attainment areas a staggering \$1.5 billion per year or \$337 per employee, and

WHEREAS, the United States General Accounting Office estimates that trip reduction programs will only yield a one to three percent reduction in vehicle traffic which will be quickly reversed by expected urban growth; and

WHEREAS, any resulting benefits from mandatory carpooling will be short-lived at best and will never meet the goals of the Clean Air Act, as the California experience, the General Accounting Office studies, and urban growth have demonstrated: and

WHEREAS, the General Accounting Office believes that virtually none of the trip reduction measures called for in the Clean Air Act will significantly reduce emissions; and

WHEREAS, recent studies cited by Transportation Quarterly indicate that not more than nine percent of all cars are responsible for as much as fifty percent of automotive emissions; and

WHEREAS, the General Accounting Office has concluded that the existing models used to predict emission reductions for trip reduction measures cannot be counted on with confidence to estimate actual reductions; and

WHEREAS, there is no data or analysis to demonstrate that the Clean Air Act mandates will accomplish the trip and emission reduction mandated in the Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, it is obvious to every employer, employee, governmental entity, and the General Accounting Office that the costs and results of the mandated trip reduction measures do not justify the economic and social hardships which occur in non-attainment areas if employment trip reduction mandates continue as part of the Clean Air Act; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that other avenues may be available which would result in, among other things, the elimination of the federal mandate for a vehicle reduction program, it is imperative that the path chosen not result in the disruption of many critical and environmentally desirable programs along with the desired elimination of such a program; and

Did you know that global corporation Kraft Foods was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

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.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the employees and the employers to chose the course of action which is directed toward accomplishing one thing - the elimination of the federally mandated vehicle trip reduction program; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the American Legislative Exchange Council that the United States Congress is strongly urged to adopt an amendment to the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990 to eliminate the provisions that mandate an Employer Trip Reduction Program in "extreme" and "severe" non-attainment areas and, in lieu thereof, leave such a program as an option to be implemented by the states based on relative costs, timing and benefits of such a program.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that every state legislative body join in this effort by adopting a similar Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to each and every member of the Congress of the United States and each house of the Legislature of each State.

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, www.SourceWatch.org, and now www.ALECexposed.org. For more information contact: editor@prwatch.org or 608-260-9713.