

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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Resolution Supporting Quality Higher Education

Expressing the sense of the Legislature regarding the importance and value of academic excellence in public higher education

WHEREAS, institutions of higher education, particularly public universities supported by the State [Commonwealth] of [insert state name], have a duty to prepare their graduates to compete in the global marketplace, lead our nation thoughtfully, and be lifelong learners; and

WHEREAS, every college and university should ensure its students receive a firm grounding in the areas of knowledge they will use throughout their lives, including composition, literature, foreign language, United States government and history, economics, mathematics, and the natural and physical sciences; and

WHEREAS, a common foundation of knowledge serves as a civic glue, binding together a diverse people; and

WHEREAS, the Citizens of this State [Commonwealth] deserve to see their tax dollars spent wisely so that their children and all children who attend the colleges and universities supported by this State [Commonwealth] are prepared to be successful as workers and citizens; and

WHEREAS, research has found that 63 percent of employers find that four-year college graduates do not have the skills to succeed in a global economy, and only 24 percent believe graduates are excellently prepared for employment in entry-level positions; and

WHEREAS, in recent national studies, only 31 percent of college graduates showed the ability to read and understand a complex book and a mere 57 percent passed a basic test on civics; and

WHEREAS, a report by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni states that nearly half of the 100 universities studied therein do not require a genuine college-level math course before graduation, a mere 17 require a course in literature, two require courses in economics, and almost 90 percent do not require a survey course in United States history or government; and

WHEREAS, the colleges and universities of this State [Commonwealth] should be a model for the whole of the United States' education system, by ensuring their students have a firm grounding in the knowledge and skills needed to compete in the marketplace and participate fully in the civic life of this nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by this Legislature [House, Assembly, etc.], that it is the sense of the Legislature [House, Assembly, etc.] of the State [Commonwealth] of [state name here] that:

Did you know that an online for-profit school company was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

First, the failure of so many institutions of higher education to provide college graduates with necessary skills and knowledge threatens U.S. competitiveness and innovation; and

Second, boards of trustees of institutions of higher education in the State [Commonwealth] of [state name here] should work with administrators and faculty to ensure that this State's [Commonwealth's] colleges and universities provide the broad grounding in knowledge and skills that they promise, particularly in the subject areas outlined above; and

Third, State officials responsible for higher education should review public college and university core curricula in the State [Commonwealth] of [state name here] and promote and reward broad-based, coherent curricular requirements covering the areas of knowledge essential to productive lives and good citizenship; and

Fourth, parents and students should select institutions of higher education that provide a coherent educational foundation in order to reinforce the importance and value of academic excellence in public higher education.

*Passed by the Education Task Force on December 4, 2009.
Approved by the ALEC Board of Directors on January 8, 2010.*

Related Files

[Resolution Supporting Quality Higher Education](#) (Microsoft Word Document)

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.

From CMD: This resolution embraces the idea that public universities and other colleges have failed "to provide the college graduates with necessary skills" and knowledge and that this "threatens U.S. competitiveness and innovation." Many universities would likely and strongly dispute that characterization of the education provided at their institution, while embracing a desire to improve.