

**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.

& MEETINGS

**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 → Public Safety and Elections

**Theft From Three Separate Mercantile Establishments Act**

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

**Summary**

This act creates an increased penalty for anyone who steals merchandise from three separate mercantile establishments during an ongoing criminal episode.

**Model Legislation**

{title, enacting clause, etc.}

**Section 1. {Short Title}** This Act may be cited as the Theft From Three Separate Mercantile Establishments Act.

**Section 2.**

Theft is a {lower grade} felony when the goods, wares, or merchandise shoplifted are of the value of {enter felony amount} or more, or when the goods, wares, or merchandise shoplifted are from three separate mercantile establishments during a criminal episode, regardless of the value of the goods.

**Section 3. {Severability clause}**

**Section 4. {Repealer clause}**

**Section 5. {Effective date}**

*Adopted by ALEC's Criminal Justice Task Force at the Annual Meeting July 27, 2000. Approved by full ALEC Board of Directors August, 2000.*

**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**.

**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.

**Center for Media and Democracy's quick analysis**

This is part of a set of bills, favored by corporations, designed to increase criminal penalties for retail theft. This bill in particular creates a new class of felony if a person steals from three separate businesses, even if the value of the goods stolen is negligible. This bill would benefit large retailers such as Wal-Mart, which sits on the ALEC Private Sector board.