

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.

& 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?**

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Resolution On Transparency In State Attorney General Conduct

PURPOSE: Urging State Legislatures to adopt measures similar to the US Chamber Institute for Legal Reform's State Attorney General Code of Conduct in order to assure high ethical standards in conducting the affairs of the Office of Attorney General and to protect the public confidence in the integrity of this important Office;

WHEREAS, public statements by State Attorneys General can have serious implications affecting the public interest, Attorneys General must exercise prudence and caution in the conduct of any media contact, limiting comment on matters of great significance to the public interest.

WHEREAS, a State through its legislative and executive functions establishes salaries, number and qualifications of personnel needed to carry out the duties of the Office of Attorney General, employment of outside counsel should only be undertaken when the lack of expertise of the Attorney General's office or a conflict of interest on the part of the Attorney General's office requires the use of individuals not employed by the State, and any such retention generally should be on a fixed fee basis whose terms are specified in a written agreement between the State and the outside counsel that is subject to public oversight;

WHEREAS, the affairs of the Office of Attorney General should be free of any appearance of favoritism or use of the Office to benefit a private party, any contract with outside counsel where fees are anticipated to exceed \$1 million should be awarded based only on the conclusion of a competitive bidding process open to the public for oversight;

WHEREAS, those who conduct the affairs of the Office of Attorney General, including outside counsel, should be free of the appearance of conflicts of interests, any use of contingency fees should be extremely rare and any such fee should be capped so that total compensation is no higher than is reasonable under the circumstances, and the terms of any such agreement should be specified in a written agreement between the State and the outside counsel that is subject to public oversight;

WHEREAS, the conduct and decisions of outside counsel reflect on the State and affect its rights and responsibilities, the Attorney General should retain ultimate control and decision-making authority over the major issues in all cases where outside counsel is retained to represent the interests of the State;

WHEREAS, the personal, financial, and other business dealings of the State Attorney General should not affect or exploit the exercise of discretion or influence the Office of Attorney General;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the American Legislative Exchange Council urges all State legislatures to enact legislation requiring compliance by its Office of the State Attorney General and all personnel of such Office with the principles embodied in the State Attorney General Code of Conduct issued by the U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform, where the State constitution permits such exercise of power by the legislative branch, so that the legal matters of the State are carried out in a manner that is fair and equitable and subject to oversight by the residents of such State.

*Adopted by the Civil Justice Task Force on August 1, 2008.
Approved by the ALEC Board of Directors on September 11, 2008.*

Did you know that Victor Schwartz--a lawyer who represents companies in product litigation--was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

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.