

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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Enterprise Zone Act

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

Summary

The Enterprise Zone Act establishes zones in depressed areas that have reduced taxes and removal of unnecessary government barriers to the production and earning of wages and profits and the creation of economic growth.

Model Legislation

{Title, enacting clause, etc.}

Section 1. The legislature hereby finds and declares that the health, safety and welfare of the people are enhanced by the continual encouragement, development, growth and expansion of private enterprise within the state. The legislature further finds and declares that there are certain economically depressed areas in this State that need particular attention to create new jobs, stimulate economic activity and attract private sector investment rather than government subsidy to improve the quality of life of their citizens. Therefore, it is the public policy of this legislature to encourage new economic activity in these depressed areas of the state by means of reduced taxes and the removal of unnecessary governmental barriers to the production and earnings of wages and profits and the creation of economic growth.

Section 2. As used in this Act, the following terms have the following meanings:

- (A) "Authority" means the enterprise zone authority;
- (B) "Enterprise Zone" means an area of this state declared by the authority to be eligible for the benefits of this Act;
- (C) "Qualified business" means any person, corporation or other entity engaged in the active conduct of a trade or business, limited to the business location within the Enterprise Zone and not extending to related interests or business locations outside the zone:
- (1) with at least 50 percent of its employees performing substantially all of their services within an Enterprise Zone; and
 - (2) with individuals from one or more of the following three categories constituting at least 25 percent of the business' employees:
 - (a) residents of an Enterprise Zone;
 - (b) individuals who have been unemployed for at least the entire year prior to obtaining employment with the business;
 - (c) individuals who have rejected public assistance benefits, based on need and intended to alleviate poverty for at least the entire year prior to obtaining employment with the business.
- (D) "Qualified property" means:
- (1) any tangible personal property located in an Enterprise Zone used predominantly by the taxpayer in the zone in the active conduct of a trade or business; and
 - (2) any real property located in such zone which:
 - (a) was used predominantly by the taxpayer in the active conduct of a trade or business; or
 - (b) was the principal residence of the taxpayer on the date of the sale or exchange.
 - (3) any interest in a corporation, partnership, or other qualified business entity ending before the date of the sale or exchange.
- (E) "Qualified employee" means any employee who works for a qualified business.

Section 3. (A) Any city, county or urban county government by act of the local legislative body may designate any area or areas within their jurisdiction to be an economically depressed area. Such city, county, or urban county government may then make written application to the authority to have such area or areas declared to be an enterprise zone. Such application shall include a description of the location of the area or areas in question and such other information as the authority may require.

(B) Upon receipt of an application from a city, county or urban county government the authority shall review the application to determine whether the area or areas described in the application qualify to be designated an enterprise zone.

(C) The authority shall complete its review within 120 days of receipt of the application, but may extend this time period an additional 60 days if necessary. If the authority denies the application, it shall inform the unit of local government of the fact along with the reasons for the denial.

Section 4. (A) Any area or areas of a city, county or urban county government may be designated an enterprise zone which:

(1) has a continuous boundary,

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 summary

This anti-regulatory bill would remove worker protections and other regulations in economically depressed areas. These "enterprise zones" would allegedly promote economic activity "by means of reduced taxes and the removal of unnecessary governmental barriers . . ."

This could pave the way for eliminating governmental regulation in all areas.