

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 Against U.S. Participation in International Agreement in Copenhagen

Whereas, The American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) promotes the Jeffersonian principles essential to good government, in particular peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations, entangling alliances with none; and

Whereas, ALEC affirms the Separation of Powers Article in the Constitution of the United States, in particular the check upon the power of the Presidency that is given effect in the Senate's powers over treaties; and

Whereas, at the imminent Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at Copenhagen, our President may subjugate the sovereign Constitution of the United States to an entangling alliance with the Convention's participants in the name of saving the planet from the uncertain threat of global warming at the great cost and burden of the American people; and

Whereas, ALEC has long maintained that the national debate on greenhouse gas emissions should be contemplated and resolved in Congress; and

Whereas, the Congress is currently contemplating the question of a national scheme to reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

Whereas, multiple studies from a spectrum of parties have demonstrated that efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions will be costly to the American people in jobs, electricity prices, gas prices, and government tribute; and

Whereas, the United States is in the midst of high unemployment, financial and housing downturns and alarming government deficits at the federal and state level; and

Whereas, international agreements to reduce greenhouse gas emissions have historically omitted the meaningful participation of key nations rendering participating nations' sacrifices ineffective in meaningfully altering global concentrations of greenhouse gases; and

Whereas, key nations, namely China and India, continue to demonstrate a commitment to economic growth ahead of concerns of climate change and have given every indication that future opportunities to join international agreements on the subject will not include their meaningful participation in emissions reductions; and

Whereas, ALEC recognizes that climate change is a historical phenomenon and the debate will continue on the significance and implications of natural and anthropogenic contributions; and

Whereas, the recent revelation of emails penned by scientists at the East Anglia Climate Research Unit, which is one of four official sources for global temperature data used by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), call into serious question both the data and the scientific methods used to formulate theories contending that global warming is occurring and that it is anthropogenic in nature; and

Whereas, all these facts give serious pause to a national commitment to sacrifice economic growth, jobs and global competitiveness for an uncertain cause and an unattainable goal;

Therefore be it resolved that the United States shall not enter into any treaty at or arising from the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference at Copenhagen, and that, in particular, the Administration shall take no steps whatsoever to evade or circumvent the stipulation in the Constitution that the Senate alone shall decide treaties.

*Passed by the International Relations Task Force on December 4, 2009.
Approved by an emergency vote of the ALEC Board of Directors on December 10, 2009.*

Did you know that Reynolds American-- one of the biggest tobacco companies in the world-- 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.

Center for Media and Democracy's quick summary

From its 1998 resolution in support of "Fast Track" Trade Promotion Authority-- which was used to push a permanent normal trading relationship with China through Congress in 2000 with little discussion or debate-- to more recent resolutions in support of the proposed Colombia, Panama and Korea Free Trade Agreements, ALEC has consistently urged its members to support a radical "free trade" agenda. This free trade agenda has cost America millions of jobs as factories closed and moved overseas in search of cheaper labor. Since 2001, an estimated 2.4 million American jobs have been lost to China alone. Now a diverse array of service sector jobs, from accounting and tax preparation to health care and credit card servicing, are being off-shored under these agreements. Such free trade agreements also allow public health, consumer, environmental and worker safety rules to be challenged as "barriers to trade" in trade tribunals that operate outside the constraints of U.S. law.

ALEC has also been a major promoter of the U.S. tobacco industry, which seeks to hook new generations of smokers on their products around the world. Reynolds Tobacco is the corporate co-chair of the International Relations Task Force of ALEC. ALEC has a trade resolution specifically targeting the European Union ban on Snus, a moist tobacco product often marketed to the young with fruit flavors. Reynolds produces Camel Snus in four flavors and is not happy that this dangerous product is banned in most of Europe. Note that ALEC maintains a list of "International Delegates," which are elected government officials around the world.