

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.

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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Prohibition of Negative Check-off Act

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

Summary

The Prohibition of Negative Check-Off Act delineates the enforcement of financial arrangements that are not entered into by the payer. The Act declares that nonvoluntary payments and negative check-off plans are void as against public policy.

Model Legislation

Section 1. {Short Title.} This Act shall be known as the Prohibition of Negative Check-Off Act.

Section 2. {Legislative Declaration.}

Section 3. {Definitions.}

(A) "negative check-off plan" means a plan whereby a payer, by his or her inaction is deemed to have agreed to a payment or series of payments.

(B) "voluntary" means an action or choice given freely, as evidenced by some affirmative act on the part of the payer. A charitable contribution made by a payer pursuant to authorization given by such payer is deemed to be voluntary.

Section 4. {Negative check-off plans prohibited.}

(A) It shall be a deceptive trade practice to, in the course of one's business, vocation, or occupation, receive funds from an individual whereby such funds are not given on a voluntary basis, unless such an arrangement is required pursuant to a court order. Such involuntary payments are void as against public policy. A payment made pursuant to a negative check-off plan shall not be considered to have been made on a voluntary basis.

(B) Nothing in any other state law shall affect the validity or application of this section as it applies to any employee, including, but not limited to, persons employed by the state or a local government or any governmental subdivision or agency thereof, without exception.

Section 5. {Severability Clause.}

Were your laws repealed?

Section 6. {Repealer Clause.}

Section 7. {Effective Date.}

1996 Sourcebook of American State Legislation

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 summary

This bill will make it more difficult for unions to collect dues. It will outlaw automatic deduction of dues from the paychecks of union-represented workers, unless the workers give an explicit approval. Section 4(B) preempts state public sector labor laws that might allow automatic deduction of union dues.

A similar version of this bill was introduced in the Georgia House in 1998.