

## 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
- Infil, 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](http://www.SourceWatch.org).

AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL

# Exposed

By the Center for  
Media and Democracy  
[www.prwatch.org](http://www.prwatch.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 Calling for the Congress of the United States to Call a

**Constitutional Convention Pursuant to Article V of the United States**

**Constitution to Propose a Constitutional Amendment Permitting Repeal of any Federal Law or Regulation by Vote of Two-Thirds of the State**

Legislatures

From CMD: On the contrary, Article I, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution expressly provides that Congress "shall have the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excises, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defense and general welfare of the United States." The Fourteenth Amendment provides that the "validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, . . . shall not be questioned." And, Article VI of the Constitution indicates that "all debts contracted" before the Constitution was adopted are "valid."

The Sixteenth Amendment to the Constitution permits the federal government to tax income. It expressly provides that "The Congress shall have power to lay and collect taxes on incomes, from whatever source derived, without apportionment among the several States, and without regard to any census or enumeration."

Article VI of the U.S. Constitution provides that the Constitution and federal laws passed pursuant to its powers are the "supreme law of the land" and supercede state laws in conflict. That is not to suggest that Congress can pass any law but that laws passed pursuant to its enumerated powers cannot be said to improperly encroach on state powers.

**WHEREAS**, Article I of the United States Constitution begins "All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Congress has exceeded the legislative powers granted in the Constitution thereby encroaching on the powers that are "reserved to the states respectively, or to the people" as the Tenth Amendment affirms and the rights "retained by the people" to which the Ninth Amendment refers; and

**WHEREAS**, this encroachment includes the accumulation of federal debt, which combined with interest represents a future tax, and is of such great proportion that responsibility for its payment will be passed to future, unborn generations of Americans to assume without their consent, thereby disparaging their rights; and

**WHEREAS**, this encroachment also includes compelling state and local governments to comply with federal laws and regulations without accompanying funding for such mandates; and

**WHEREAS**, in Federalist No. 85, Alexander Hamilton wrote in reference to Article V of the Constitution and the calling of a convention for the purpose of proposing amendments that, "We may safely rely on the disposition of the State legislatures to erect barriers against the encroachments of the national authority"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution should be amended in order to halt federal encroachment and restore a proper balance between the powers of Congress and those of the several states, and to prevent the denial or disparagement of the rights retained by the people;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** That the Congress of the United States be urged to call a constitutional convention pursuant to Article V of the United States Constitution for the purpose of proposing a constitutional amendment that permits the repeal of any federal law or regulation by vote of two-thirds of the state legislatures, and the {insert state} Delegation to such Convention, when called, shall propose the following amendment: "Any provision of law or regulation of the United States may be repealed by the several states, and such repeal shall be effective when the legislatures of two-thirds of the several states approve resolutions for this purpose that particularly describe the same provision or provisions of law or regulation to be repealed;" and

**BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER**, That delegates to such Convention, when called, be selected according to procedures established by the legislatures of the several states; and

**BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER**, That the Clerk of the {state legislative body} transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of

Did you know that Reynolds American-- one of the biggest tobacco companies in the world-- was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

the **{insert state}** Congressional Delegation so that they may be apprised of the sense of the **{state legislative body}** in this matter.

*Adopted by the Federal Relations Working Group, August 5, 2010. Approved by the ALEC Board of Directors, September 19, 2010.*

**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](http://www.PRWatch.org), [www.SourceWatch.org](http://www.SourceWatch.org), and now [www.ALECexposed.org](http://www.ALECexposed.org). For more information contact: [editor@prwatch.org](mailto:editor@prwatch.org) or 608-260-9713.