



# Exposed

By the Center for  
Media and Democracy  
[www.prwatch.org](http://www.prwatch.org)

## 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](http://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?**

Home → Model Legislation → Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development

### Licensing and Certification Common Language Act

#### Summary

This Act would require that all activities related to the licensing of businesses, professionals and tradepersons by the State and its subdivisions be conducted in the English language.

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

#### Model Legislation

**Section 1. {Short Title}** "This Act may be cited as the Omnibus Common Language Legislation"

#### Section 2. {Legislative Declarations}

The legislature hereby finds and declares that:

(A) The State regulates and licenses the activities of a wide range of business and professional activities, and;

(B) The State has a responsibility to assure users that the services provided are safe, accurate and otherwise reliable, and;

(C) For this responsibility to be carried out, it is necessary to be assured that licensees comprehend and understand all information available related to the activity, both oral and written, and;

(D) Many of the activities and procedures related to the rendering of the covered services involve the handling of hazardous and potentially harmful materials or the carrying out of dangerous procedures, that it is in the best interest of both licensees and their customers, that said licensees should be required to understand, comprehend and otherwise communicate in the English language.

#### Section 3. {Main Provisions}

(A) All procedures, applications, documents, attestations, and other materials related to the licensing or certification of businesses, professionals and tradepersons in the State shall be conducted, printed and recorded in the English language; and any such files, licenses, certifications or other recorded information maintained by the State related to the licensing and certification of said licensees shall be available to the general public.

(B) The Regulatory Agencies and Offices of the State shall promulgate regulations pursuant to the provisions of this act.

(C) Right of action. Any citizen shall have standing to bring an action against the State to enforce this act. The State Courts shall have jurisdiction to hear and decide any such action brought under this section.

#### Section 4. {Severability Clause}.

#### Section 5. {(Repealer Clause)}

Were your laws repealed?

#### Section 6. {Effective Date}

1995 Sourcebook of American State Legislation

**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.

Center for Media and Democracy's quick summary

A piece of English-only bill that contradicts ALEC's typically anti-regulation, anti-litigation positions. The bill explicitly says that all regulations and licensing must be conducted in the English language, but is drafted in such a way that it could require even private business be conducted in English. It also creates a private right of action allowing citizens to sue the State to enforce the Act.