

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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A Resolution Opposing Government Intervention in the Multichannel Video Programming Distribution Marketplace Through A La Carte or Tiering Requirements

Did you know that global telecommunications company AT&T was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the American Legislative Exchange Council to advance the Jeffersonian principles of free markets, limited government, federalism and individual liberty, and

WHEREAS, ALEC believes that a competitive marketplace, not multiple layers of regulation, will most efficiently drive the price and diversity of programming available to consumers in the multichannel video marketplace, and

WHEREAS, the multichannel video programming industry is essential to the nation's economy, commerce and technological growth, and imposing government-mandates on the way this industry distributes and markets its programming to consumers will destroy the economic underpinnings and private property rights fundamentals upon which companies have invested billions of dollars in private risk capital to build new infrastructure and develop new programming that benefit consumers; and

WHEREAS, an impressive and vibrant multichannel video programming distribution industry has developed with minimal government control over programming distribution and marketing to consumers, and particularly without requiring a la carte or specialized tiering; and consumers have benefited by having the ability to choose among hundreds of diverse programming channels; and

WHEREAS, government regulation requiring a la carte or specialized tiering could cause the demise of many existing programming services that depend on an economic model which allows them to be part of a bundle of programming, to attract the necessary viewership to gain needed advertising revenues; and

WHEREAS, numerous independent studies, including ones by the U.S. Government Accountability Office and Federal Communications Commission, have determined that imposing a government-mandated a la carte regime on the multichannel video programming industry could result in increased prices for many consumers while decreasing programming diversity, in part by reducing advertising revenues for program networks.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that ALEC shall voice its support of minimal, state and federal regulation of the manner in which the multichannel video programming distribution industry distributes and markets programming to consumers over its own infrastructure to the marketplace, and its opposition to government-mandated a la carte distribution or specialized tiering; further

BE IT RESOLVED that ALEC opposes government intervention in a multichannel video programming distribution marketplace that has fostered unprecedented growth in the availability, quality and diversity of video programming to consumers, while also spurring the deployment of new and beneficial services like High Speed Internet service, high definition television, and VoIP, and further

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ALEC urges state regulatory and legislative bodies to

refocus their efforts on ensuring that the essential business model under which this growth has occurred is preserved and strengthened, and continues to benefit consumers, including ensuring unlimited access to multichannel video programming; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ALEC shall convey its support to the members of the United States Congress and Executive Branch

Adopted by the Telecommunications & Information Technology Task Force at the States and Nation Policy Summit, December 11, 2004. Approved by the full ALEC Board of Directors January, 2005

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.