

**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?**

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**Workfare Act**

Did you know that global pharmaceutical company Bayer Healthcare was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

**Summary**

Public assistance should be formulated in terms of a contract between government and the individual. Responsibility must flow in two directions. The individual must be committed to undertaking a number of specific actions to prepare for and seek a job, with the objective of achieving self-sufficiency.

The major obligation of the individual in the public assistance contract is to prepare for, seek, accept, and retain a job. All employable welfare recipients should be required to seek employment or perform public service in exchange for their benefits. Employable recipients who refuse to comply should be denied their benefits

Experiments in Arkansas, California, and Washington have shown that required job search programs or job search combined with "work experience" where the welfare recipient performs service in a government agency or non-profit agency in exchange for benefits) can significantly reduce welfare rolls and costs.

According to the evidence available, job search and work experience programs produce greater increases in employment and are more cost effective than training programs for welfare recipients.

**Model Legislation**

{Title, enacting clause, etc.}

**Section 1. {Participation}** The following individuals shall be required to participate in the workfare and employment program subject to the guidance specified in Section 1.

(A) Adult AFDC recipients who: are not disabled; do not have a child under age six; have no record of employment during the past two years; and have been enrolled in the AFDC program for at least one year.

(B) Male parents in families on the AFDC-UP program who: are not disabled; and have been enrolled in the AFDC-UP for at least three months.

**Section 2. {Program requirements}** Recipients entering the workfare program will participate in the following sequence of activities. Recipients will first participate in an organized job search workshop for a period of eight weeks. Those who have not obtained employment at the end of this eight week period will participate in the Community Work Experience Program (CWEP). Participants who do not obtain paid employment while participating in the work experience activities will continue in the CWEP for at least six months.

(A) The organization job search workshop will provide for one week of job search orientation instruction followed by seven weeks of closely supervised group job search including participation in a job search phone bank.

(B) Individuals in the work experience program will serve in an unpaid position in the public or private sector non-profit organization. The number of hours of work experience per week in the CWEP program will be determined by dividing the value of the family AFDC grant and food stamps received by the family by the federal minimum wage or the state minimum wage wherever applicable, at least four hours of required participation per week will be set aside to provide the participant with the opportunity to engage in supervised job search activities if desired.

**Section 3. {Program Phase-In}** AFDC and AFDC-UP recipients identified in Section 1A and 1B shall be termed "program eligible recipients." Participation in the work program by eligible recipients shall be phased-in in the following manner.

**Section 4. {Severability clause}**

**Section 5. {Repealer clause}**

Were your laws repealed?

**Section 6. {Effective date}**

*Adopted by the Health and Human Services Task Force and approved by the ALEC Board of Directors in 1989.*

**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.