

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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Resolution for a Limited Constitutional Convention on Unfunded Mandates

Summary

The National Conference of State Legislators recently surveyed state legislative fiscal office for cost information on unfunded federal mandates. The five survey issues chosen for the cost estimate were: the Americans With Disabilities Act, State Medicaid Coverage of Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries, Automatic Child Support Withholding for New Child Support Orders, Fleet Conversion Requirements Under the Energy Act, and Capital Improvements Requirements Under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Twenty-one states responded to the survey and reported a total cost for these mandates of \$1,475,340,071 over several years. If large states such as California, Pennsylvania, and New York had been able to respond to the survey, the cost figure reported would have been considerably higher.

This Resolution petitions the U.S. Congress to call a convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to prohibit the federal government from reducing the federally financed proportion of the necessary costs of any existing activity or service required of the state by federal law or from requiring a new activity or service or an increase in the level of an activity or service beyond that required of the states by existing federal law, unless the federal government pays for any necessary increased costs.

Did you know that the Evergreen Freedom Foundation--which is connected to the Kochs--was the corporate co-chair in 2011?"

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- For more on these corporations, search at www.SourceWatch.org.

Model Legislation

{Title, enacting clause, etc.}

Section 1. {Legislative findings.} The legislature finds and declares that:

(A) The federal government has disproportionately burdened state governments with costly unfunded mandates in many different areas.

(B) These unfunded mandates have become an intolerable strain on the state budget.

(C) These unfunded mandates lead to more government than would come about if the federal government had to pay for the programs it required.

Section 2. Pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States, the State Legislature petitions the Congress of the United States of America, at its session, to call a convention for the sole and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to prohibit the federal government from reducing the federally financed proportion of the necessary costs of any existing activity or service required of the states by federal law, or from requiring a new activity or service or an increase in the level of an activity or service beyond that required of the states by existing federal law, unless the federal government pays for any necessary increased costs.

Section 3. If Congress adopts an amendment containing provisions similar in subject matter and content to that stipulated in Section 1 of this resolution, before 90 days after the legislatures of the required two-thirds of the states have made applications to Congress, then this application for a convention shall no longer be of any force or effect.

Section 4. With the exception noted in Section 2, this resolution constitutes a continuing application to Congress in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have made application for a convention to propose an amendment similar in subject matter and for the sole and exclusive purpose of addressing the subject matter as enumerated in Section 1.

Section 5. This application shall be deemed null and void, rescinded, and of no effect in the event that a convention called pursuant to this resolution is not limited to the specific and exclusive purpose set forth in Section 1 of this resolution.

Section 6. Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted by the Secretary of State, to the President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the (state) delegation to the Congress, and printed copies shall be sent to each house of each state legislature in the United States.

Section 7. {Severability clause.}

Section 8. {Repealer clause.} ← Were your laws repealed?

Section 9. {Effective date.}

ALEC's 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, www.SourceWatch.org, and now www.ALECexposed.org. For more information contact: editor@prwatch.org or 608-260-9713.