

By the Center for **Media and Democracy** www.prwatch.org

## ALEC EXPOSE

"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 corporationsincludes 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?

Model Legislation → Energy, Environment, and Agriculture

Resolution on Mandatory Electricity Consumer Disclosure Information

WHEREAS, many states are deregulating the generation of electricity and encouraging the formation of a competitive electricity marketplace;

WHEREAS, market forces can do a better job than any government or regulatory agency in determining the prices and varieties of electricity products and services, including the types and technologies used for generating electricity;

WHEREAS, the economic efficiencies inherent in competitive markets provide the most cost-effective compliance with environmental laws and regulations;

WHEREAS, consumers value the environment and are willing to vote with their dollars to promote environmental objectives;

WHEREAS, electric suppliers in different regions around the country are marketing the concept of "green pricing" whereby customers of electricity may choose the generation technologies that best support their environmental values, and at a premium price if necessary;

WHEREAS, some advocates of greater market intervention propose to mandate an enforceable requirement that all customer bills for electricity include information on price variability, fuel mix, emissions and other characteristics associated with such fuel

WHEREAS, it is the sense of this Legislature that the mandatory disclosure of such information on customer bills is undue interference in the operation of competitive markets, and impedes the efficient operation of the market by imposing a burden on any electric supplier otherwise willing to offer products and services to consumers of the state of {insert state}.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the state of {insert state} urges the Congress, as it seeks to reform and repeal federal laws that impede competitive electricity markets, to encourage the voluntary disclosure of information on customer bills relating to generation source and the environmental emissions of each source; and

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the state of {insert state} urges the Congress to refrain from mandates requiring or prohibiting disclosure of such information.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is the sense of this Legislature that the mandatory disclosure of such information on customer bills is undue interference in the operation of competitive markets, and impedes the efficient operation of the market by imposing a burden on any electric supplier otherwise willing to offer their products and services to consumers of the state of {insert state}.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and to every member of this state's Congressional Delegation.

Center for Media and Democracy's quick summary

Among other things, this resolution attempts to limit efforts to shine more light on a utility's fuel mix to its customers and attempts to thwart efforts to mandate such disclosures to consumers.

Did you know the trade group for the gas industry was a corporate cochair in 2011?

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.