

See Center for Media and Democracy's quick summary at bottom

# ALEC

AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL

Limited Government, Free Markets, Federalism

**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).

NEWS PUBLICATIONS MEMBERS MODEL

**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?**

## Resolution Supporting Taiwan's Meaningful Participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan, with a population of 23 million, has worked tirelessly to improve cross-Straits relations since President Ma Ying-Jeou came to power in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Taiwan have recently completed negotiations on an Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) resulting from closer cross-Straits ties; and

**WHEREAS**, the UN's stated purpose is "To develop friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples ... [and] to achieve international co-operation in solving international problems of an economic ... character ... [and] to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends; and

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) invited Taiwan (Chinese Taipei) to attend the 62nd World Health Assembly in April 2009 as an observer, setting a precedent for UN specialized agencies of recognition of Taiwan as an entity; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan's absence from UN specialized agencies, like the ICAO, has had adverse effects on Taiwan's development and is inconsistent with Chapter 1 of the UN Charter's stated Purposes and Principles; and

**WHEREAS**, aviation safety is a global issue that requires all members of the global community to take part in the ICAO in order to best serve the interests of every passenger; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan's Taoyuan International Airport is a key air transport hub in the Asia Pacific region, with the Taipei Flight Information Region (Taipei FIR) ranked the world's 15th largest by cargo volume in 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, 365,000 Americans traveled to Taiwan for business and leisure during 2009, making aviation safety in Taiwan a priority for Americans' safety and best interests; and

**WHEREAS**, Taiwan makes meaningful contributions to the world community through foreign aid and its position as a major transport hub both of which could be facilitated by an ability to work within UN frameworks; and

**WHEREAS**, the inclusion of Taiwan in ICAO is consistent with the ICAO's stated purpose of ensuring that "international civil aviation be developed in a safe and orderly manner and that international air transport services may



be established on the basis of equality of opportunity and operated soundly and economically”;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that ALEC supports Taiwan's Meaningful Participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that ALEC urges the State Department to make appropriate arrangements to facilitate Taiwan's participation in ICAO's meetings, mechanism, and activities, for the purposes of international aviation safety and security; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of State of the United States, to the U.S. Ambassador to the UN, to the U.S. Ambassador to the ICAO, to the U.S. Trade Representative and to the Secretary of Transportation.

*Adopted by the International Relations Task Force, August 5, 2010.  
Approved by the ALEC Board of Directors, September 19, 2010.*

**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

From the older resolutions in support of Fast Track Trade Promotion Authority-- which was used to push a permanent normal trading relationship with China through Congress in 2000 with little discussion or debate-- to more recent resolutions in support of the proposed Colombia Free Trade Agreement, ALEC has consistently urged its members to support a radical "free trade" agenda. This free trade agenda has cost America millions of jobs as factories closed and moved overseas in search of cheaper labor. Since 2001, an estimated 2.4 million American jobs have been lost to China alone. Now a diverse array of service sector jobs, from accounting and tax preparation to health care and credit card servicing, are being offshored under these agreements. Such free trade agreements also allow public health, consumer, environmental and worker safety rules to be challenged as "barriers to trade" in trade tribunals that operate outside the constraints of U.S. law.

ALEC has also been a major promoter of the U.S. tobacco industry, which seeks to hook new generations of smokers on their products around the world. Reynolds Tobacco is on the International Relations Task Force of ALEC. ALEC has a trade resolution specifically advancing a newer tobacco product called *Snus*, a moist tobacco product often marketed to the young with fruit flavors. Reynolds produces Camel *Snus* in four flavors and is not happy that this dangerous product is banned in most of Europe.