



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.

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?

Home → Model Legislation → Energy, Environment, and Agriculture

## **Resolution in Opposition of Carbon Dioxide Emission Standards**

Did you know the trade group for the gas industry was a corporate co-chair in 2011?

WHEREAS, fuel diversity is a key component of the national economy and enhances affordability of energy, is essential for energy security, and augments energy development, production and transmission reliability; and

WHEREAS, 85% of our national energy consumption is based upon fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide is a natural by-product of fossil fuel combustion; and

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide is not classified as an ambient air pollutant nor a hazardous air pollutant, but is a beneficial gas that contributes to the ecological health of all natural resources: and

WHEREAS, carbon dioxide is a non-toxic gas found naturally in the environment; and

WHEREAS, reducing power plant emissions of carbon dioxide to 1990 levels as proposed by pending federal legislation would increase the consumer electricity costs by 33 percent: and

WHEREAS, limits on carbon dioxide emissions will require energy rationing; and

WHEREAS, credits for 'voluntary' carbon dioxide reductions encourage support for energy rationing because the credits achieve full monetary value only under a Kyoto-like emissions cap-and-trade program; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Information Administration estimates that the Kyoto Protocol's carbon dioxide emission reduction targets could cost the United States up to \$400 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, approximately 95% of the greenhouse gases emitted by motor vehicles are carbon dioxide; and

WHEREAS, USDOT is currently undertaking a Corporate Average Fuel Economy rulemaking process that addresses greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles in a manner that carefully weighs the technical, economic, safety, job, competitive industrial and consumer choice implications; and

WHEREAS, state regulations of carbon dioxide emission standards for motor vehicles is tantamount to a state version of federal fuel economy mandates that reduces consumer choice by restricting production of larger, heavier vehicles that provide more utility and passenger safety; and

## **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. **WHEREAS,** states can best encourage greater implementation of innovative technologies through market based consumer incentives and support public/private partnerships that promote the development of advanced technologies; and

**WHEREAS,** the President's Global Warming Initiative stresses the importance of science in guiding policy and actions that are consistent with the need to maintain healthy economic growth. It also places increased emphasis on improving the state of climate science, so that policy actions are consistent with our state of knowledge.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the American Legislative Exchange Council supports the free market principles contained within the President's initiative as a cost-effective and scientifically guided national program to address the climate change issue.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the American Legislative Exchange Council is opposed to mandatory or "voluntary" carbon dioxide emission standards and the use of greenhouse transferable credits as a tool for environmental policy or regulation.

Adopted by the Natural Resources Task Force at the Annual Meeting, August 8, 2002.

Approved by the full ALEC Board of Directors September, 2002.

**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.