

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

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• centerpoint360
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• GlaxoSmithKline
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• Johnson & Johnson
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• Kraft Foods, Inc.
• Coca-Cola Co.
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• ExxonMobil
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• 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?

Home -> Model Legislation -> Health and Human Services

Resolution on Certificate of Need (CON) Laws Required for the Establishment of Certain Health Care Services

WHEREAS, Certificate of Need (CON) laws and similar programs are prominent government-imposed barriers to entry into the health care market that force health care firms to fulfill various over-burdensome requirements to obtain state permission to provide certain services; and

WHEREAS, Government-imposed barriers to entry into the health care market thwart access to quality care and healthy competition by preventing and/or delaying entities from bringing new technologies into certain geographical regions; and

WHEREAS, Barriers to entry stifle competition in the health care arena by not allowing services to follow the demand of patients and payors; and

WHEREAS, The Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, in a joint statement, noted that CON laws "impede the efficient performance of health care markets" and "pose serious anticompetitive risks that usually outweigh their purported economic benefits"; and

WHEREAS, CON laws derive their origin from a repealed federal law (The National Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974) that advocated for the establishment of CON laws based on the then-current reimbursement arrangements that have since changed dramatically; and

WHEREAS, Market forces tend to improve the quality of care while lowering the cost of services and lead to innovation in the health care world; and

WHEREAS, The health care system thrives on efficient and effective services that are at odds with the effects of CON laws.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT {insert state} opposes the establishment or expansion of government-imposed barriers to health care access such as Certificate of Need (CON) laws, and further urges the repeal of existing CON laws.

Adopted by the Health and Human Services Task Force May 1, 2009.

Approved by the American Legislative Exchange Council's Board of Directors June 6, 2009.

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

Center for Media and Democracy's quick summary

This Resolution opposes establishment of "Certificate of Need" (CON) laws in the health care system. CON laws give state government the power to review the necessity of expansion of new health care facilities (usually hospitals). ALEC's members would likely argue that more competition drives prices down, but evidence suggests overbuilding of health care facilities actually drives up the cost of health care.

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.