

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.

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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VOTER ID ACT

SUMMARY

This legislation requires any United States citizenⁱⁱ desiring to vote in a state to provide proof of identity at the polls, outlines permissible provisional ballots, and optionallyⁱⁱⁱ provides for a free ID to those who do not have a driver's license.

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

(a) "Proof of identity" means a document or identification card that:

- (1) Shows the name of the person to whom the document was issued;
- (2) Shows a photograph of the person to whom the document was issued;
- (3) Contains an expiration date, and is not expired.
- (4) Is issued by the United States or the State of Arkansas.

From CMD: "expiration" of a license to drive should not invalidate your right to vote or nullify it as proof of your identity.

SECTION 2. IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT TO VOTE.

(b) Any person desiring to vote in this state shall present proof of identity to the election official when appearing to vote in person either early or at the polls on Election Day.

(c)(1) If the voter is listed on the precinct voter registration list but fails to provide proof of identity, the election official shall:

(A) Indicate on the precinct voter registration list that the voter did not provide proof of identity; and

(B) Request that the voter execute an affidavit in the presence of the election official containing:

(i) A written eligibility affirmation stating that he or she is a registered voter in the precinct in which he or she desires to vote and is eligible to vote; and

(ii) A statement that the voter cannot provide proof of identity because the voter:

(a) Does not have proof of identity available at the time of voting;

(b) Is indigent; or

Did you know the NRA--the National Rifle Association--was the corporate co-chair in 2011?

(c) Has a religious objection to being photographed.

(2) If a voter executes an affidavit under subsection (c)(1)(B) of this section, the election official shall permit the voter to cast a **provisional ballot**.

(d) A provisional ballot cast by a voter who did not provide proof of identity **shall be counted if**:

(1)(A) The voter returns to the county board of election commissioners by 12:00 p.m. **on the Monday following the election** and provides proof of identity.

From CMD: But by then most candidates will either have declared victory or conceded, before these votes are even counted...

(B) If a voter does not return to the county board of election commissioners and provide proof of identity, the county board of election commissioners shall make a determination whether to count a provisional ballot cast by a voter who did not provide proof of identity based on the merits of each provisional ballot; and

(2) The voter has not been challenged or required to vote a provisional ballot for any other reason.

(e) An identification card shall be issued without the payment of a fee or charge to an individual who:

(1) Does not have a valid driver's license; and

(2) Will be at least eighteen (18) years of age at the next general election, special election, or municipal election.

(f) The provisions of this section concerning the presentation of proof of identity when appearing to vote shall not apply to a person who is a resident of a licensed nursing home, licensed residential care facility, licensed assisted-living facility, or any licensed facility that provides long-term medical or personal care.

SECTION 3. REPEALS. The following are repealed: _____.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. This [act] takes effect _____.

iiIn its Taxpayer and Citizen Protection Act, ALEC also outlines suggested requirements for proof of citizenship when registering to vote.

iiiBecause numerous United States Supreme Court decisions have been interpreted to hold that government may not require citizens to pay any fee in exchange for the right to vote, bill drafters may wish to include a section that mandates the provision of publicly funded ID cards without cost to those citizens who request them.

Approved by the Public Safety and Elections Task Force on July 17, 2009.

Approved by the ALEC Board of Directors on August 27, 2009.

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.

Center for Media and Democracy's quick summary

This bill would serve to disenfranchise many low-income, minority, elderly, and student voters, many of whom do not have driver's licenses. While the bill provides for free IDs, in many states the offices that would provide IDs are not located near the communities that would have the greatest needs and/or keep irregular hours. Taking the time to get an ID would be burdensome and many individuals who might otherwise vote would not take the time or be aware of the need to get an ID in advance of the election date.

The bill allows a voter to cast a provisional ballot without an ID, but the voter must still present an ID within a week or their vote will not be counted. Section 2(d)(1)(B) gives the County Board of Election Commissioners discretion about whether to count a provisional ballot not supported by ID, opening the door to partisan wrangling with final vote counts.

Wisconsin passed a similar Voter ID bill in 2011 with the support of Governor Scott Walker. The Wisconsin bill goes further than this one by requiring that the driver's license or identification card include a person's current address (even if the ID is not expired), making voting difficult for students or low-income individuals who move during the year but have proof of residence through utility bills for example.