



3333 14th Street NW, Suite 200, Washington, DC 20010

March 26, 2012

Dear Members of the American Legislative Exchange Council Private Enterprise Board:

In 2005, the American Legislative Exchange Council adopted a model bill that was almost identical to Florida's "Stand Your Ground" law enacted earlier that year. The Florida legislators who introduced that act, Sen. Durell Peaden and Rep. Dennis Baxley, were, like your companies, members of ALEC.

That Florida law has allowed George Zimmerman to avoid arrest for killing Trayvon Martin, a 17-year-old boy, and it could make it easier for Zimmerman to avoid prosecution. As you know, Trayvon Martin, who was unarmed, was shot while returning from buying a snack.

ALEC has made this bill a priority, and numerous ALEC-affiliated state legislators have pushed it. These laws have been adopted in at least twenty more states.

ALEC has long been a central force behind state laws that harm the health and safety of Americans. Last year, it emerged that in 2009 ALEC had endorsed the model for state "Voter ID" laws, which make it harder for low-income people, communities of color, young people, the disabled and elderly, and others to vote, and ALEC legislators have sponsored those bills in numerous states. And now we know that ALEC backed the law that could let Trayvon Martin's killer walk free, the same law that risks more tragedies in the other states.

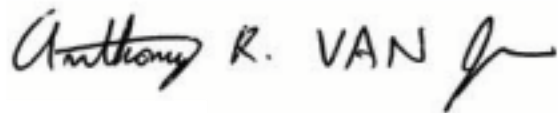
We call on your companies to stop supporting ALEC's reckless agenda, which harms the communities in which you do business.

On behalf of our organizations and members, we ask that you formally and publicly end your affiliation with, and your financial support for, the American Legislative Exchange Council, out of respect for Trayvon Martin and his family, and in the interest of making our country less violent and more united.

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Please respond by contacting Suzanne Merkelson of United Republic at 202 / 299-0911, smerkelson@unitedrepublic.org, or the above mailing address. If we don't hear from you soon, we will follow up. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter.

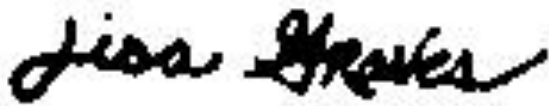
Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Anthony R. VAN Jones in black ink.

Van Jones, co-founder, Rebuild the Dream

Handwritten signature of Rashad Robinson in black ink.

Rashad Robinson, Executive Director, ColorofChange.org

Handwritten signature of Lisa Graves in black ink.

Lisa Graves, Executive Director, Center for Media and Democracy

Handwritten signature of David Halperin in black ink.

Lee Fang, David Halperin, Zaid Jilani, Suzanne Merkelson, Matt Stoller

Editors, Republic Report, a Project of United Republic

We are sending this letter to the CEOs of members of the American Legislative Exchange Council Private Enterprise Board, and to each company's designated representative on that board:

Edward B. Rust Jr., Chairman and CEO  
Roland Spies, Counsel  
State Farm Insurance  
One State Farm Plaza  
Bloomington, IL 61710

David Rousseau, President  
Russell Smoldon, Manager – State and Local Government Relations  
Salt River Project  
1521 N. Project Dr.  
Tempe, AZ 85281-1298

Rex Tillerson, Chairman and CEO  
Randy Smith, Strategic Sourcing Advisor  
ExxonMobil Corporation  
ExxonMobil Shareholder Services  
c/o Computershare  
P.O. Box 43078  
Providence, RI 02940-3078

Michael Szymanczyk, CEO  
Daniel Smith, Regional Director  
Altria Client Services, Inc.  
Corporate Communications  
6601 West Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23230

Charles G. Koch, CEO  
Mike Morgan, Director of Public and Government Affairs  
Koch Companies Public Sector, LLC  
Koch Industries, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2256  
Wichita, KS 67201-2256

Scott Davis, Chairman and CEO  
Richard McArdle  
UPS  
UPS World Headquarters  
55 Glenlake Parkway NE  
Atlanta, GA 30328

W. Preston Baldwin, President and CEO  
Centerpoint 360  
Centerpoint360, LLC, 30 Milbank Avenue  
Greenwich, CT 06830

Marijn Dekkers, CEO  
Sandra Oliver, VP of Public Policy and State Government Affairs  
Bayer  
100 Bayer Road  
Pittsburgh, PA 15205-9741

Andrew Witty, CEO  
John Del Giorno, VP State Government Affairs  
GlaxoSmithKline  
One Franklin Plaza  
PO Box 7929  
Philadelphia PA 19101

Daniel Delen, President and CEO  
David Powers, VP of State Government Relations  
Reynolds American  
PO Box 2990  
Winston Salem, NC 27102-0464

Mike Duke, President and CEO  
Maggie Sans, VP of Public Affairs  
Wal-Mart Stores  
702 S.W. 8th Street  
Bentonville, AR 72716

John F. Young, President and CEO  
Sano Blocker, Senior Vice President  
Energy Future Holdings  
Energy Plaza  
1601 Bryan St.,  
Dallas, TX 75201-3430

William Weldon, CEO  
Don Bohn, VP for State Government Affairs  
Johnson & Johnson  
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza  
New Brunswick, New Jersey, 08933

John Castellani, President and CEO  
Jeffrey Bond, Senior Vice President  
PhRMA  
950 F Street Northwest, Suite 300  
Washington D.C., 20004

Michael J. Whitlock, Vice President  
William Carmichael  
American Bail Coalition  
3857 Lewiston Place  
Fairfax, VA 22030

Irene Rosenfeld, Chairman and CEO  
Derek Crawford, Director of State and Government Affairs  
Kraft Foods Inc.  
Three Lakes Drive, Mail Code NF11  
Northfield, IL 60093

Ian Read, President and CEO  
Robert Jones, Director of Government Relations  
Pfizer Inc.  
235 East 42nd Street  
NY, NY 10017

Paul Walsh, CEO  
Kenneth Lane, VP of Government and Trade Relations  
Diageo PLC  
Lakeside Drive, London, NW10 7HQ

Erik Engstrom, CEO  
Teresa Jennings, Director of State and Government Affairs  
Reed Elsevier, Inc.  
1150 18th Street, NW  
Suite 600  
Washington, DC 20036

Randall L. Stephenson, Chairman, CEO, and President  
William Leahy, VP of Atlantic Region, AT&T Services, Inc.  
AT&T  
208 S. Akard St. Dallas  
TX 75202

Greg Boyce, Chairman and CEO  
Kelly Mader, VP of State and Government Affairs  
Peabody Energy  
701 Market St.  
St. Louis, MO 63101-1826