# AMERICAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

TO: TAX AND FISCAL POLICY TASK FORCE MEMBERS

FROM: JONATHAN WILLIAMS, TASK FORCE DIRECTOR

**DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2012** 

RE: 35 DAY MAILING—ALEC'S ANNUAL MEETING: TAX AND

FISCAL POLICY TASK FORCE

The American Legislative Exchange Council will host its States and Nation Policy Summit from November 28<sup>th</sup> to November 30<sup>th</sup> at the Grand Hyatt hotel in Washington, D.C. The Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force will meet on Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m.

The 21<sup>st</sup> Century Commerce and Taxation Working Group will convene on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 8:50 a.m. The Fiscal Policy Reform Working Group will convene from 9:00 a.m. until 9:50 a.m. The Public Pension Reform Working Group will convene from 10:00 a.m. until 10:50 a.m. Lastly, the Fiscal Federalism Working Group will convene from 11:00 a.m. until 11:30 a.m.

### Please find the following materials enclosed:

- States and Nation Policy Summit Tentative Schedule
- Task Force Meeting Tentative Agenda
- Draft Model Legislation
- Draft Model Legislation Summaries
- Articles of Interest
- ALEC Mission Statement
- ALEC Task Force Operating Procedures
- ALEC Meeting Reimbursement Policies

**Travel and Accommodations:** ALEC's States and Nation Policy Summit and all task force meetings will be held at the **Grand Hyatt**. Visit <a href="www.alec.org">www.alec.org</a> today to register and arrange housing. Please call (202)-742-8538 if you have any questions about registration.

I look forward to seeing all of you in Washington, D.C. for what is sure to be an excellent meeting. If you have any questions or comments regarding the meeting, please contact me at 202-742-8533 or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:jwilliams@alec.org">jwilliams@alec.org</a>.

Cordially,

Jonathan P. Williams

Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force Director

### 2012 ALEC STATES & NATION POLICY SUMMIT

November 28 - 30, 2012

Grand Hyatt Washington 1000 H Street, NW • Washington, D.C. 20001

### ATTENDEE REGISTRATION / HOUSING FORM

Early registration deadline: November 8, 2012 Housing cut-off date: November 8, 2012

Online reservations will receive immediate email confirmation. Reservations received by form will be

confirmed via email, fax, or mail within 72 hours of receipt.



Credit cards will be charged one night room and tax in the event of a no show

or if cancellation occurs within 72 hours prior to arrival. Please obtain a

cancellation number when your reservation is cancelled.

### 2012 ALEC STATES & NATION POLICY SUMMIT

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Grand Hyatt Washington
1000 H Street, NW • Washington, D.C. 20001

### SPOUSE/GUEST REGISTRATION FORM



Online www.alec.org

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Phone / Questions 202.742.8538

Phone / Questions • Mon-Fri, 9am-5:00 pm Eastern

ATTENDEE INFORMATION IS REQUIRED TO REGISTER A SPOUSE OR GUEST

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Organization				
Daytime phone				
Email ( <i>Confirmation will be sent b</i>	y email)	101		
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### REGISTRATION CONFIRMATION INFORMATION

Online registrants will receive immediate email confirmation. If registering by form, confirmation will be emailed within 72 hours of receipt of payment.

### **REGISTRATION CANCELLATION / REFUND INFORMATION**

Registrations cancelled prior to 5pm Eastern November 8, 2012 are subject to a \$100 cancellation fee. Registrations are non-refundable after 5pm Eastern November 8, 2012.

### **Agenda**

### Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup>

Joint Board of Directors Meetings	7:30 am – 5:00 pm
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Registration 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

6:00 pm - 9:30 pm **ALEC Joint Board Reception and Dinner** 

### Wednesday, November 28th

7:30 am - 5: 8:00 am - 11:4: 9:00 am - 5:00 p 9:00 am - 11:00 an 10:15 am - 11:15 am 11:30 am - 1:15 pm 1:30 pm Registration

**Task Force Subcommitee Meetings** 

**Exhibits** 

**State Chairs Meeting** 

**New Legislator Orientation** 

**Opening Plenary Luncheon** 

Task Force Chairs Meeting

Workshops

**Hospitality Suite** 

Registration	7:30 am – 5:00 pm
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Plenary Breakfast 8:00 am - 9:15 am

**Exhibits** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Workshops 9:30 am - 12:15 pm

Plenary Luncheon 12:30 pm - 2:15 pm

### **Task Force Meetings**

2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

- Energy, Environment, and Agriculture Task Force
- Health and Human Services Task Force
- International Relations Task Force
- Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force

National Chairman's Reception, by Invitation Only 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Gala Holiday Reception 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Hospitality Suite 9:00 pm – 11:00 pm

### Friday, November 30<sup>th</sup>

Registration 7.30 am - 2:30 pm

Plenary Breakfast 8:00 am - 9:15 am

Workshops 9:30 am - 12:15 pm

Plenary Luncheon 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm

Task Force Meetings 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Civil Justice Task Force

- Communications and Technology Task Force
- Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development Task Force
- Education Task Force

To: All ALEC Task Force Members

**RE:** Sunset Procedures

The Board of Directors has approved a set of procedures for reviewing all ALEC Model Legislation and resolutions. All model legislation must be reviewed before every 5<sup>th</sup> year after the bill has been adopted or re-reviewed by the Task Force and the ALEC Board. All model legislation under review is eligible for sunset according to the five year sunset review process. The entire process is outlined in this packet and should answer most questions. The upcoming task force meeting at the 2012States and Nation Policy Summit in Washington DC will have a different focus than previous task force meetings. Most task forces will be reviewing dozens of past ALEC bills and resolutions.

ALEC's Board of the Directors and staff adopted this sunset procedure to enable all ALEC bills to be reviewed and updated as needed on a reasonable basis. This process has already proved that some legislation served its purpose and is no longer needed. We believe this will result in ALEC having clear and relevant legislation and policies that legislators are proud to promote.

The following is a quick executive overview of the process:

- Staff recommends which bills should be retained, amended or sent to sunset. All recommendations are sent for review to the Task Force Executive Committee.
- The Task Force Executive Committee will review staff recommendations. Bill and resolutions approved by two thirds of the Executive Committee will be sent directly to the ALEC Board. Any bill that is amended or requested to be reviewed will be sent to the full Task Force.
- The Full Task Force will review all bills the Executive Committee recommended for review, amendment, and bills that failed to receive a two thirds majority vote.
- All Task Force recommendations regarding model bills and resolutions to be sunset or retained shall be sent to the ALEC Board of Directors.
- The ALEC Board of Directors will vote on all bills that are to either be sunset or retained.

If you have any questions about this process please either contact your Task Force Director or you may contact me directly.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Bowman Senior Director of Policy & Strategic Initiatives

### Five Year Sunset Model Legislation and Resolutions

All ALEC model bills and resolutions will have an original adoption date and five year sunset date which can be renewed by a vote of the Task Force Executive Committee or the full Task Force and the ALEC Board of Directors.

All bills or model resolutions that are four years from adoption date will have one year for the Task Force to review and vote on whether to extend another five years. The Task Force Director will transmit all four year old model bills and resolutions to the Task Force Executive Committee no later than 65 Days before the next Task Force Meeting.

In the 65 Day Notice ALEC Staff will make one of the following recommendations for each four year model bill or resolution to the Task Force Executive Committee.

- The policy should sunset
- The policy should be amended
- The policy should be retained

The Task Force Co Chairs may appoint a special committee to review the recommendations from the ALEC staff. Executive Committees are to vote 40 Days prior the next Task Force Meeting. The Executive Committees shall vote by phone, in person, or by any electronic means.

If a two-thirds majority of the Task Force Executive Committee votes to retain the model bill or resolution that action is to be reported to the full Task Force. The model bill or resolution will be directly transmitted to the Board for consideration. No Task Force vote is necessary since the model bill or resolution is existing policy and both the Task Force Executive Committee and the Board will vote to extend the sunset.

If a majority of the Task Force Executive Committee agrees to sunset, amend, or retain the model bill or resolution the model policy moves onto the full Task Force. The Task Force Executive Committee will transmit all model bills that are to expire as sunset or that are to be amended to the full Task Force. At the Co-Chairs discretion, any bill or resolution up for task force consideration may be placed on the consent slate that will go before the full Task Force.

Any member of the Task Force may make a motion to separate any model bill or resolution from the Consent calendar but must have an additional four members of the Task Force rise in support to second the motion. It would take a majority of the public and private sector bill to take any action on the model bill or resolution.

All model bills retained, amended, or sunset will go before the public sector board for approval before adoption as described in Section IX.



# States and Nation Policy Summit Bill Review Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force

### Amend (Bill 1):

1. State Internet Tax Freedom Act

### **Technical Corrections (Bills 2-3):**

- 2. Resolution Urging Congress to Permanently Extend the Bush Tax Cuts
- 3. Resolution to Support Congressional Efforts to Ban Internet Access Taxes

### Repeal (Bills 4-11):

- 4. Electronic Commerce and New Economy Data Collection Act
- 5. Public Document Cost Disclosure Act
- 6. Resolution for a Limited Constitutional Convention on Unfunded Mandates
- 7. Resolution to Repeal the Non-Transportation Federal Fuels Tax
- 8. Sound Federal Fiscal Policy Resolution
- 9. Commission on Economy and Productivity in State Government Act
- 10. Building Life Extension for State Buildings Act
- 11. Internet Taxation Resolution

### Retain (Bills 12-55)

- 12. 21st Century Commercial Nexus Act
- 13. 72-Hour Budget Review Act
- 14. Business Activities Tax Simplification Act
- 15. Budget Reserve Account Act
- 16. Capital Gains Tax Elimination Act
- 17. Efficiency in Government Act
- 18. Federal Grant Review Act
- 19. Federal TABOR Resolution
- 20. Fiscal Note Act
- 21. Flat Tax Option Act
- 22. Congressional Delegate Mandate Constitution Act
- 23. Government Services Competition Act
- 24. Independent Revenue Forecasting Act
- 25. Interstate Compact Sunshine Act
- 26. Legislative Budget Audit Commission Act
- 27. Personal and Business Flat Tax Act
- 28. Privatization Initiative Panel Act

- 29. Public Prerogatives Act
- 30. Resolution Encouraging Congress to Maintain Local Property Tax Deduction
- 31. Resolution in Favor of a Federal Flat Tax
- 32. Resolution in Favor of a Tax Credit on Charitable Donations
- 33. Resolution on State and Local Business Activity Taxes
- 34. Resolution on Use of Transportation Taxes
- 35. Resolution Supporting Congressional Action to Affirm State Authority over Tax Incentives and **Economic Development**
- 36. Resolution to Restate State Sovereignty
- 37. Resolution Urging Congress to Aid State Tax Reform
- 38. Resolution Urging Congress to Eliminate the Alternative Minimum Tax
- 39. Resolution Urging Congress to Reject Authorization of the Streamlined Sales Tax Project (SSTP)
- 40. Sales and Use Tax Collection Protection Act
- 41. State and Local Government Labor Productivity Data Collection Act
- 42. State Payment for State Mandates Act
- 43. Statement of Principles for Telecommunications Tax Reform
- 44. Statement of Principles on Local Option Taxes
- 45. Super-Majority Act
- 46. Tax and Expenditure Limitation Act
- 47. Tax Indexing Act
- 48. Taxpayer Privatization Dividend Act
- 49. Taxpayer Protection Act
- 50. Taxpayer Right to Appeal Act
- 51. Taxpayer Transparency Act
- 52. Truth in Forecasting Act
- 53. Truth in Spending Act
- 54. Use Tax Elimination Act
- 55. Resolution in Favor of a US Constitutional Amendment on Judicial Taxation



# TAX AND FISCAL POLICY TASK FORCE MEETING ALEC'S 2012 STATES AND NATION POLICY SUMMIT WASHINGTON, D.C. THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH, 2:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.

Indiana Sen. Jim Buck – Public Sector Chair Bob Williams – Private Sector Chair Jonathan Williams – Task Force Director

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2:30	Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions Indiana Sen. Jim Buck
	Bob Williams – State Budget Solutions
2:35	Old Business — Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes
2:40	Report from the Public Pension Reform Working Group
2:45	Report from the Fiscal Policy Reform Working Group
2:50	Report from the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century Commerce and Taxation Working Group
2:55	Report from the Fiscal Federalism Working Group
3:00	Best Practices for Debt Collection and Tax Amnesty Tim Johnson — Sallie Mae
3:10	State Unemployment by the Numbers
	Dr. Keith Hall – Mercatus Center at George Mason University
3:20	Tangible Personal Property Business Taxes
	Joyce Errecart – Foundation for Government Accountability
3:30	Enhancing Budget Transparency Utah Sen. Wayne Niederhauser
3:40	Recap of 2012 Tax and Fiscal Ballot Initiatives
	Brandon Arnold – National Taxpayers Union
3:50	Perspectives on the Multistate Tax Commission
	Maureen Riehl – Council on State Taxation  Steve Kranz – Sutherland Ashill & Brennan LLP

Joe Crosby – Multistate Associates

4:20 Private Versus Public Pay Study Citizens Against Government Waste 4:30 A View from the Hill: Federal Tax Policy and the Fiscal Cliff Panelists TBD 4:50 Model Legislation to Amend State Internet Tax Freedom Act Sponsor: Greg Saphier, NCTA 5:00 **Technical Corrections** Resolution Urging Congress to Permanently Extend The Bush Tax Cuts 3. Resolution to Support Congressional Efforts to Ban Internet Access Taxes Model Legislation to Repeal Electronic Commerce and New Economy Data Collection Act
Public Document Disclosure Act
Resolution for a Limited Constitutional Convention on Unfunded Mandates
Resolution to Repeal the Non-Transportation Federal Fuels Tax
Sound Federal Fiscal Policy Resolution
Commission on Economy and Productivity in State Government Act
Building Life Extension for State Buildings Act
Internet Taxation Resolution

Business
Triment 4. Electronic Commerce and New Economy Data Collection Act 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10. 11. 5:25 **New Business** 5:30 Adjournment

1	TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS
2 3	Resolution to Support Congressional Efforts to Ban Internet Access Taxes
4 5	Summary
6 7   8 9	This resolution supports a permanent Internet Access tax moratorium. The current moratorium will expire November 1, 20072014. This resolution recognizes that taxing Internet access would slow broadband deployment, particularly in rural and low-density areas, would decrease telework opportunities, and widen the digital divide.
11	Resolution
12 13 14 15	WHEREAS, broadband Internet access for all Americans is an important public policy objective, and
16 17 18	WHEREAS, taxing Internet access will have a chilling effect on broadband investment into rural and low-density areas where fewer consumers will buy a higher-priced product, and
19 20 21	WHEREAS, less deployment in rural and low-density areas means fewer people can telework, which would reduce personal quality of life and the public good effects, such as reducing commuting traffic and pollution, and
22 23 24 25 26	WHEREAS, taxing Internet access widens the digital divide and limits the economic and educational opportunities available to lower-income Americans, as only <u>11-45</u> percent of households with incomes below \$30,000 have <u>adopted</u> broadband service compared to <u>61-87</u> percent of households with incomes above \$10075,000, and
27 28 29	WHEREAS, taxing Internet access raises costs for distance learning, interactive medicine, and new online business models, and
30 31 32	WHEREAS, hidden taxes on backbone internet transport increase costs to consumers and have the same impact as direct taxes on internet access, and
33 34 35   36	WHEREAS, the current federal moratorium on Internet access taxes will expire on November 1, 20072014, and

<sup>1</sup> http://pewinternet.org/~/media//Files/Reports/2010/Home%20broadband%202010.pdf (p. 8)

- 37 WHEREAS, extending or making permanent the current moratorium on Internet access taxes
- would have substantial positive downstream effects for Internet infrastructure and services 38
- 39 throughout the country.

41 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that {insert state} supports a permanent ban on direct and hidden taxes on Internet access. 42

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The Center for Media and 44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that {insert state} urges the U. S. Congress to act quickly to enact new legislation to ban Internet access taxes before the current moratorium expires. 45

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47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that {insert state} shall convey its support to the members 48 of Congress and the Executive Branch.

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1 TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS 2 Resolution Urging Congress to Permanently Extend the Bush Tax Cuts\* 3 4 5 Summary: 6 7 This resolution encourages Congress to permanently extend the Bush Tax Cuts of 2001 and 2003. [Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 and Jobs and 8 9 Growth Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2003.] Allowing these tax cuts to expire will 10 undoubtedly slow the growth of the U.S. economy, and further harm America's ability to compete in the global marketplace. 11 12 13 Resolution: 14 WHEREAS, the tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 have spurred economic growth and allowed 15 the spirit of entrepreneurship to flourish, while creating new jobs and opportunities for 16 17 millions of Americans, and 18 WHEREAS, American taxpayers from all income groups have seen their tax liabilities 19 diminish from pre-2001 levels, and 20 21 WHEREAS, if the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts are allowed to expire as scheduled at the end 22 of 2010, much of the economic growth made possible by the tax cuts would no longer be 23 24 sustainable, and 25 WHEREAS, the economically damaging federal estate tax will fade to nothing by 2010, 26 but will then be reinstated to a confiscatory top marginal rate of 55 percent in 2011, if the 27 28 tax relief is allowed to expire, and 29 WHEREAS, allowing the tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 to expire would result in a 30 31 significant decline in gross domestic product, reduced capital and wage income, fewer hours worked and a lower level of private-sector output, and 32 33 34 WHEREAS, it is projected that the expiration of the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts would result 35 in a tax increase of [Insert Number] for residents in [Insert State], and 36 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the legislature of the state of [Insert 37 38 Statel urges the United States Congress to permanently extend the tax cuts of 2001 and 39 2003. 40 41 42 43 \*The Tax and Fiscal Policy Force Executive Committee voted for technical corrections in order to update this bill's title and text. 44 45 Adopted by the Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force, December 8, 2007 Approved by the ALEC Board of Directors January 2007. 46

1 **AMENDMENTS** 2 State Internet Tax Freedom Act 3 4 5 Summary 6 7 8 The borderless nature of the 21st century economy makes the preemption of certain taxes 9 necessary for a growing economy, sound business environment, and healthy taxpayer. 10 This model bill forbids a state or local tax on Internet access, Online Computer Services, or the use of Internet access<del>-or any Online Computer Services</del>. 11 12 13 14 Model Legislation 15 16 {Title, enacting clause, etc.} Section 1. {Short Title.} This Act may be cited as the "{Insert State} Internet Tax Freedom Act."

Section 2. {Declarations.} 17 18 19 20 21 22 (A) As a massive global network spanning not only state but international borders, the 23 Internet is inherently a matter of interstate and foreign commerce within the jurisdiction 24 of the United States Congress under Section 8 of Article I of the United States 25 26 Constitution. 27 (B) Even within the United States, the Internet does not respect state lines and operates 28 independently of state boundaries. Addresses on the Internet are designed to be 29 geographically indifferent. Internet transmissions are insensitive to physical distance and 30 31 can have multiple geographical addresses. 32 (C) Taxes imposed on Internet access or Online Computer Services by state and local 33 34 governments could subject consumers, businesses, and other users engaged in interstate 35 and foreign commerce to multiple, confusing, and burdensome taxation, could restrict the 36 growth and continued technological maturation of the Internet itself, and could call into 37 question the continued viability of this dynamic medium. 38 39 (D) Services provided by state and local governments are important and valuable to both 40 consumers and businesses, and this bill is not intended to interfere with existing sources 41 of revenue that provide funding for local government services. This act is intended to 42 impose a moratorium on new taxes imposed on Internet access and Online Computer 43 Services, as well as the discriminatory application of existing or new taxes, as defined 44 herein, to Internet access or Online Computer Services. Nothing in this act shall be 45 interpreted as precluding the imposition or collection of new or existing taxes of general

application that are imposed or assessed in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner

without regard to whether the activities or transactions taxed are conducted through the use of the Internet or, Internet access, or Online Computer Services.

(E) A permanent, uniform and coherent national policy concerning national and subnational taxation of the Internet, in a manner that does not unreasonably burden interstate and foreign commerce, should be developed by the Congress of the United States, acting pursuant to the powers granted to it by clause 3 of Section 8 of Article I of the United States Constitution. Until such a permanent national policy is developed, a limited restriction on state taxing authority and preemption of local taxing authority of the Internet and Online Computer Services is appropriate.

(F) It is the intent of this Legislature that no existing or future state taxes or state fees be imposed by the state in a discriminatory manner upon Internet access or Online Computer Services. This statement of legislative intent is meant to place the greatest possible barrier to the creation of discriminatory taxes or fees upon this Legislature and all future Legislatures.

(G) For these reasons, the Legislature finds that, subject to certain exceptions designed to protect existing local government revenue, preemption of local government authority to levy taxes on Online Computer Services and access to the Internet is a matter of statewide concern.

Section 3. {Definitions.} The following definitions apply in this Act:

(A) "Internet" means the global information system that is logically linked together by a globally unique address space based on the Internet Protocol (IP), or its subsequent development and extensions, and is able to support communications using the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) suite, or its subsequent development and extension, or other IP-compatible protocols; and provides, uses, or makes accessible, either publicly or privately, high level services layered on the communications and related infrastructure described herein.

(B) "Online Computer Services" means the offering or provision of information, information processing, and products or services to a user via the Internet, whether or not they are offered as part of a package of services that are combined with Internet access and offered to the user for a single price, or provided and billed separately. "Online Computer Services" does not include telephone service or telecommunications services.

(BC) Internet Access -

(1) means a service that enables users to connect to the Internet to access content, information, or other services offered over the Internet;

(2) includes the purchase, use or sale of telecommunications by a provider of a service to the extent such telecommunications are purchased, used or sold to provide such service;

92 or to otherwise enable users to access content, information or other services offered over 93 the Internet; 94 95 (3) includes services that are incidental to the provision of the service when furnished to 96 users as part of such service, such as a home page, electronic mail and instant messaging 97 (including voice- and video-capable electronic mail and instant messaging), video clips, 98 and personal electronic storage capacity: 99 100 (4) does not include voice, audio or video programming, or other products and services 101 that utilize Internet protocol or any successor protocol and for which there is a charge, regardless of whether such charge is separately stated or aggregated with the charge 102 103 104 (5) includes a homepage, electronic mail and instant messaging (including voice- and 105 video-capable electronic mail and instant messaging), video clips, and personal electronic 106 storage capacity, that are provided independently or not packaged with Internet access.; 107 "Internet access" means the offering or provision of the storage, computer processing, 108 109 and transmission of information that enables the user to make use via the Internet. "Internet access" does not include telephone service 110 111 telecommunications services. 112 (CD) "Discriminatory" means a tax levied on Online Computer 113 Services or Internet access that is either of the following 114 115 (1) At a rate higher than that imposed on other businesses. 116 117 (2) Applicable to the taxpayer solely by virtue of the offering of or the use of 118 Online Computer Services or Internet access and therefore not applicable to 119 taxpayers not engaged in the offering of or the use of Online Computer Services 120 121 or-Internet access. 122 (DE) "Bit tax" means any transactional tax imposed on or measured by the amount of 123 digital information transmitted electronically, or any transactional tax imposed on or 124 measured according to any of the technological or operating characteristics of the 125 126 Internet, but does not include taxes imposed on the provision of telecommunications 127 services. 128 129 (EF) "Bandwidth tax" means any transactional tax imposed on or measured by the 130 physical capacity of an available signal to transmit information electronically or by fiber 131 optics. 132 133 Section 4. {Prohibition.} 134 135 (A) Except as provided in subdivision (B), neither the state, nor any city, county, or city

and county may impose, assess, or attempt to collect any of the following:

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### AMENDMENTS

138 139	(1) A tax on Internet access, Online Computer Services, or the use of Internet access or any Online Computer Services.
140 141	(2) A bit tax or bandwidth tax.
142 143	(3) Any discriminatory tax on Online Computer Services or Internet access.
144	(3) Any discriminatory tax on the computer services of internet access.
145 146 147 148 149 150	(B) The prohibition in subdivision (A) against the imposition of taxes shall not apply to any new or existing tax of general application, including but not limited to any sales and use tax, business license tax, or utility user tax that is imposed or assessed in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner without regard to whether the activities or transactions taxed are conducted through the use of the Internet or, Internet access, or Online Computer Services.
151 152 153	M. W.
154 155 156	Adopted by the Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force at the Spring Task Force Summit, May 1, 2004 Approved by the ALEC Board of Directors May, 2004.
	The same

### **ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL:**

### **Electronic Commerce and New Economy Data Collection Act**

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### **Summary**

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State officials estimate possible considerable sales tax revenue losses due to the continued growth of out-of-state sales over the Internet. Concern over the perceived sales tax drain on state coffers has spurred states to establish a multi-state compact designed to capture revenue from retail e-commerce. The coordinated effort to force electronic vendors to collect taxes on out-of-state sales could have a dampening effect on the Internet economy. Moreover, state revenue departments are, in some cases, using the threat posed by electronic commerce to encroach upon the powers vested in state legislatures to determine tax policy. However, the basis for projected sales tax revenue losses is unreliable and subject to dispute. Current forecasting is largely derived from anecdotal observations and from generalized assumptions extrapolated from private research data. In light of the important policy implications raised by the advent of Internet, it is paramount that state legislators possess accurate, empirical data with respect to e-commerce. It is also crucial that legislators reassert their rightful authority over state tax policy and force state revenue officials to validate their claims.

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Model Legislation

{Title, enacting clause, etc.}

Section 1. {Title} This Act may be cited as the Electronic Commerce and New Economy
Data Collection Act Data Collection Act.

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Section 2. {Statement of Purpose} It is the intent of the LEGISLATIVE BODY to require the STATE TAXING AUTHORITY to begin collecting state-specific, valid data concerning the size of electronic commerce within said state. Furthermore, the LEGISLATIVE BODY will require the STATE TAXING AUTHORITY to expand the number of factors used when projecting estimated net gains/losses in connection with electronic commerce

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### **Section 3. {Definitions}**

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(A) "state taxing authority" means the government entity responsible for collecting state taxes.

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(B) "electronic commerce" means business-to-consumer sales conducted via the Internet that is subject to taxation levied under CITE SPECIFIC STATUTE. Electronic commerce includes, but is not limited to, the sale of tangible goods (i.e. clothing, books) and intangible goods (i.e. software).

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(C) "electronic commerce vendor" means an individual, firm, fiduciary, partnership,
limited liability partnership, limited liability company, corporation, or any other legal
entity engaged in business-to-consumer sales of goods or services through an Internet
web site.

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(D) "person" means any natural person and any other entity subject to retail sales and use taxation under CITE SPECIFIC STATUTE

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Section 4. {Annual Report} The STATE TAXING AUTHORITY shall collect primary and supplementary data in order to provide the STATE LEGISLATIVE BODY with an accurate rendering of the level of electronic commerce activity within the state. The primary data set shall include, but is not limited to, the number of electronic commerce vendors domiciled within the state (where obtainable); gross retail sales of electronic commerce vendors domiciled within the state; an estimate of the number of in-state electronic commerce transactions conducted by persons within the state boundaries based on accepted standards of scientific sampling; an estimate of the number of out-of-state electronic commerce transactions conducted by persons within the state boundaries based on accepted standards of scientific sampling; an estimate of the total value of electronic commerce transactions conducted by persons within state boundaries during a calendar year; a reliable estimate of the use tax revenue that is uncollected due to out-of-state electronic commerce; and a reliable estimate of income, property, excise and other revenues paid to the state by electronic commerce vendors. Collection of primary data shall be considered part of the STATE TAXING AUTHORITY's normal duties and shall not require an additional budgetary appropriation. The STATE TAXING AUTHORITY shall supplement primary data with information supplied by the United States Commerce Department, the United States Census Bureau, the United States Small Business Administration, any other federal agency collecting electronic commerce data, and (where obtainable) affiliated state data centers. The STATE TAXING AUTHORITY is permitted to use information gathered from private, academic, and/or non-governmental entities provided that the source and methodology is clearly stated within the text of the report. The STATE TAXING AUTHORITY is prohibited from citing, as authoritative sources, studies conducted by private, academic, and/or non-governmental entities that are speculative in nature and/or based on unscientific methods. In addition, the STATE TAXING AUTHORITY shall include an analysis of the financial impact increased sales/use tax collection requirements would have on in-state companies engaged in electronic commerce The data shall be compiled in the form of an annual report to be delivered to the LEGISLATIVE BODY no latter than DATE of each year.

83 84 85

**Section 5. {Severability Clause}** 

86 87

**Section 6. {Repealer Clause}** 

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**Section 7. {Effective Date}** 

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Adopted by the Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force at the Annual Meeting, August 3, 2001. Approved by the full ALEC Board of Directors September, 2001.

### ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL: Public Document Cost Disclosure Act

### Summary

Government resources must be utilized as efficiently as possible to best serve public needs. The cost of printing official documents can be prohibitively expensive. Taxpayers should be informed of the cost of printing government forms and publications to ensure fiscal accountability.

This Act requires all government printed documents to display the total cost associated with producing the document and calls for separate budget line item delineation for costs incurred producing documents in languages other than English. It also holds government employees personally liable for violations of any provision of the Act. Further, it requires the state's chief financial officer to provide the legislature with a fiscal year summary

Section 1. {Title} This Act may be cited as the Public Document Cost Disclosure Act
Section 2. {Legislative Findings.}

The legislature finds and declares that:

Flovernment resources must be utilized as efficient with the cost of printing official with the cos needs. The cost of printing official documents can be prohibitively expensive. Taxpayers should be informed of the cost of printing government forms and publications to ensure fiscal accountability.

Section 3. {Prohibitions and standards.}

- (A) No branch, department, agency, official, employee, or other entity of state government for which a budget has been approved and for which an appropriation has been made or a transfer of funds effected pursuant to law shall print or cause to be printed any bulletin, leaflet, Christmas card, personalized memorandum stationery, or other similar communication, house organ, circular, book, report, or similar publication, except those required by law.
- (B) All printed matter so required shall be effected in a uniform manner as to basic content, size, quality of paper, and use of color as contained in standards to be established by [Appropriate legislative, executive, and judicial agencies] shall be empowered to make such exceptions affecting their respective branch of government to the provisions of this Act as may be in the best interests of the state.

(C) In addition, the provisions of this Act shall not be construed to prohibit the printing or publication of any printed matter required by any federal law or regulation in order that the state or any department or agency thereof may obtain or receive federal funds, grants, or assistance. The provisions of this Act shall apply to printed matter printed pursuant to any such federal law or regulation to the extent that this Act does not conflict with any such law or regulation.

Any administrative head of any branch, department, agency, or entity who violates any provision of this Section and any employee who, without the authorization of his administrative superior, violates any provision of this Act shall be personally liable for the cost of any printing in violation of this Act. Any state funds expended on any printing in violation of this Act may be recovered by the state in a civil action instituted by the attorney general or any taxpayer. In addition, any such person who violates the provisions of this Act shall be assessed a fine by the court of not more than five hundred dollars.

### Section 4. {Cost Statement.}

All printed matter, except documentation in connection with proceedings of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches of state government, printed or caused to be printed by any branch, department, agency, official, employee, or other entity of state government, shall contain the following statement, with required information inserted, printed on the publication adjacent to the identification of the agency responsible for publication. "This public document was published at a total cost of [\$]. [number] copies of this public document were published in this [number] printing at a cost of [\$]. The total cost of all printings of this document, including reprints is [\$]. This document was published by [name and address of person, firm, or corporation or agency which printed the material) to [statement of purpose] under authority of [citation of law requiring publication or of special exception by [appropriate legislative, executive, or judicial agency as provided in this act. This material was printed in accordance with the standards for printing by state agencies established pursuant to [applicable statute]." If the printing of the material was not done by a state agency, the above statement shall include the following additional language, Printing of this material was purchased in accordance with the provisions of [applicable contractual printing statute]." This statement shall be printed in the same size type as the body copy of the document and shall be set in a box composed of a one-point rule.

### Section 5. {Cost computation.}

(A)The following three factors shall be utilized in computation cost data;

- (1) Preparation of the public document for publication;
- (2) Printing, including all expenditures for reproduction, whether on bid or in-house;
- (3) Circulation, including all estimated expenditures for postage and distribution of the public document.

### Section 6. {Multi-language document costs.}

All costs incurred by any agency, office, or department related to the preparation, translation, printing, and recording of documents, records, brochures, pamphlets, flyers, or other information materials in languages other than English shall be delineated as separate budget line items in the agency, departmental, or office budget.

### Section 7. {Elections or propositions.}

No funds appropriated for printing purposes or otherwise shall be used to urge any elector to vote for or against any candidate or proposition on an election ballot nor shall such funds by used to lobby for or against any proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the legislature or any local governing authority. This provision shall not prevent the normal dissemination of factual information relative to a proposition on any election ballot or a proposition or matter having the effect of law being considered by the legislature or any local governing authority.

### Section 8. {Personal liability.}

Any administrative head of any branch, department, agency, or entity who violates any provision of this Section, and any employee who, without the authorization of his administrative superior, violates any provision of this Act, shall be personally liable for the cost of any printing in violation of this Act. Any state funds expended on any printing in violation of this Act may be recovered by the state in a civil action instituted by the attorney general or any taxpayer. In addition, any such person who violates the provisions of this Act shall be assessed a fine by the court of not more than five hundred dollars.

Section 9. {Fiscal Summary.}

Within 30 days of the beginning of the Legislative session, a fiscal year summary shall be provide to the Legislature by the chief financial officer of the state. The State budget shall delineate by line item said costs of printing and publication.

Section 10. {Right of action.}

Any citizen shall have standing to bring an action against the State to enforce this act. The State Courts shall have jurisdiction to hear and include any such action brought under this Act.

Section 11. {Severability clause.}

Section 12. {Repealer clause.}

Section 13. {Effective date.}

ALEC's Sourcebook of American State Legislation 1995

1 2 3	ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL: Resolution for a Limited Constitutional Convention on Unfunded Mandates
4	Summary
5	The National Conference of State Legislators recently surveyed state legislative fiscal
6	office for cost information on unfunded federal mandates. The five survey issues chosen
7	for the cost estimate were: the Americans With Disabilities Act, State Medicaid Coverage
8	of Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries, Automatic Child Support Withholding for New
9	Child Support Orders, Fleet Conversion Requirements Under the Energy Act, and Capital
10	Improvements Requirements Under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Twenty-one states
11	responded to the survey and reported a total cost for these mandates of \$1,475,340,071
12	over several years. If large states such as California, Pennsylvania, and New York had
13	been able to respond to the survey, the cost figure reported would have been considerably
14	higher.
15	This Resolution petitions the U.S. Congress to call a convention for the purpose of
16	proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to prohibit the federal government from
17	reducing the federally financed proportion of the necessary costs of any existing activity
18	or service required of the state by federal law or from requiring a new activity or service
19	or an increase in the level of an activity or service beyond that required of the states by
20	existing federal law, unless the federal government pays for any necessary increased
21	costs.
	20 oli 410
22	Model Legislation
23	Model Legislation  {Title, enacting clause, etc.}
24	Section 1. {Legislative findings.} The legislature finds and declares that:
25	(A) The federal government has disproportionately burdened state governments with
26	costly unfunded mandates in many different areas.
27	(B) These unfunded mandates have become an intolerable strain on the state budget.
20	(C) These unfunded mandates lead to more government than would come about if the
28 29	federal government had to pay for the programs it required.
	rederar government had to pay for the programs revequired.
30	Section 2. Pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United States, the State
31	Legislature petitions the Congress of the United States of America, at its session, to call a
32	convention for the sole and exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the
33	Constitution of the United States to prohibit the federal government from reducing the
34	federally financed proportion of the necessary costs of any existing activity or service
35	required of the states by federal law, or from requiring a new activity or service or an

36 37	increase in the level of an activity or service beyond that required of the states by existing federal law, unless the federal government pays for any necessary increased costs.
38 39 40 41	Section 3. If Congress adopts an amendment containing provisions similar in subject matter and content to that stipulated in Section 1 of this resolution, before 90 days after the legislatures of the required two-thirds of the states have made applications to Congress, then this application for a convention shall no longer be of any force or effect.
42 43 44 45 46 47	Section 4. With the exception noted in Section 2, this resolution constitutes a continuing application to Congress in accordance with Article V of the Constitution of the United States until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several states have made application for a convention to propose an amendment similar in subject matter and for the sole and exclusive purpose of addressing the subject matter as enumerated in Section 1.
48	Section 5. This application shall be deemed null and void, rescinded, and of no effect in
49	the event that a convention called pursuant to this resolution is not limited to the specific
50	and exclusive purpose set forth in Section 1 of this resolution.
51	Section 6. Copies of this resolution shall be transmitted by the Secretary of State, to the
52	President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of
53	the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the (state) delegation
54 55	to the Congress, and printed copies shall be sent to each house of each state legislature in the United States.
33	the Officer States.
56	Section 7. {Severability clause.}
57	Section 8. {Repealer clause.}
58	Section 9. {Effective date.}
59	to the Congress, and printed copies shall be sent to each house of each state legislature in the United States.  Section 7. {Severability clause.}  Section 8. {Repealer clause.}  Section 9. {Effective date.}
60	ALEC's 1995 Sourcebook of American State Legislation
61 62	1/1º
	<b>▼</b>

1	ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL:
2	Resolution to Repeal the Non-Transportation Federal Fuels Tax
3	
4	Summary
5	<i>Gunnary</i>
6	This Resolution urges the U.S. Congress to repeal the 1993 4.3 cents per gallon increase
7	in the federal motor fuel tax and the 5.5 cents per gallon fuel tax paid by railroads.
8	in the reactar motor ract and the c.s come per ganon ract and para of ramounds.
9	Model Resolution
10	
11	Section 1. {Short Title} This Resolution shall be known as the Resolution to Repeal the
12	Non-Transportation Federal Fuels Tax.
13	
14	Section 2. {Model Resolution}
15	$^{\prime}$ $^{\prime}$ $^{\prime}$ $^{\prime}$ $^{\prime}$ $^{\prime}$ $^{\prime}$
16	WHEREAS, recently, the price of gasoline and diesel fuel has risen dramatically; and
17	
18	WHEREAS, the increase in the price of these fuels has put a tremendous strain on
19	Americans on the middle and lower income brackets and the transportation industry; and
20	
21	WHEREAS, in 1993 the U.S. Congress passed a 4.3 cents per gallon increase in the
22	federal non-transportation fuel tax; and
23	
24	WHEREAS, railroads were already subject to a 1.25 cents per gallon federal non-
25	transportation fuel tax; and
26	WHEREAD AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND AND A
27	WHEREAS, many members of Congress, both Republicans and Democrats, are in favor
28	of providing relief to American motorists and the transportation industry by repealing the
29	non-transportation fuel tax increase; and
30 31	WHEREAS, it is reliably estimated that driving costs for all Americans would be cut by
32	a total of \$4.8 billion per year if the 4.3 cents per gallon increase in the motor fuel tax
33	were repealed; and
34	were repeated, and
35	WHEREAS, the fue Pax annually adds over \$200 million to the cost of rail
36	transportation; now
37	trunsportation, no w
38	THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that [insert state] urges the U.S. Congress to repeal
39	the 1993 4.3 cents per gallon increase in the federal motor fuel tax and the 5.55 cents
40	non-transportation federal fuel tax paid by railroads;
41	1 ,
42	
43	ALEC's Sourcebook of American State Legislation 1996.

ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL: 1 Sound Federal Fiscal Policy Resolution 2 3 4 Summary 5 The federal budget deficit peaked at close to a whopping \$300 billion in 1992 and has 6 been falling slightly each year since. However, projections now show the deficit 7 bottoming out and sharply rising in the next few years. And, if Congress decides to pass a 8 national health care plan, the deficit will increase considerably further. Uncontrolled 9 federal deficits are strangling state economies. But, raising taxes in the hope of balancing 10 the federal budget will likely reduce economic growth and invite an increase in federal spending. A recent study by the Joint Economic Committee of Congress found that since 11 12 1947 higher taxes have always led to higher deficits. Cutting spending or at the very least 13 holding it to the growth of the economy is the only way to significantly reduce the federal 14 budget deficit. If domestic spending had increased every year at the same rate as inflation, the deficit would be quite small today. This resolution calls on Congress to 15 avoid raising taxes and shifting costs to the states in order to close the federal budget 16 deficit gap. It calls on Congress to instead reduce federal spending and consumption to 17 18 reduce the deficit. WHEREAS, the federal debt is currently over \$4 trillion and is estimated to surpass \$6 trillion by the year 1000 and is 19 20 21 22 23 trillion by the year 1999, and; 24 WHEREAS, the federal government continues to borrow to finance current 25 consumption, resulting in annual deficits exceeding \$250 billion and; 26 27 WHEREAS, government spending at all levels now represents nearly half of the nation's 28 29 national income and an unprecedented 40 percent of Gross Domestic Product, and; 30 WHEREAS, as government consumption increases, private sector capital diminishes. 31 32 and: 33 WHEREAS this diminution of private sector capital stifles economic growth and places 34 35 the country at a comparative disadvantage in the global marketplace, and; 36 37 WHEREAS, economic analyses show that for every 10 percent of Gross Domestic 38 Product consumed by government, actual Gross Domestic Product is reduced by 1 39 percent annually, and; 40 41 WHEREAS, large deficits crowd out private investment and reduce capital formation, 42 further hampering economic growth, and; 43 44 WHEREAS, as evidenced by the tax increase of 1990 and other deficit reduction efforts 45 based on tax increases, raising taxes to balance the federal budget only leads to more 46 spending, and;

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WHEREAS, this tendency of taxes leading simple to more government was documented in a study by the Joint Economic Committee showing that from 1947 through 1990, every

Je go that from spending;

Le legislature of the stat.
Late the deficit by reducing a, not by raising taxes, and;

Let the state urges Congress not to element of the states, and;

Lours De that certified copies of this Concurrent Resident of the United States, the Speaker of the House, the Senate and to every member of this states Congressional de ALEC's Sourcebook of American State Legislation 1995 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the legislature of the state urges Congress and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the state urges Congress not to closed the federal

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Speaker of the House, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate and to every member of this state's Congressional delegation.

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ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL: 1 Commission on Economy and Productivity in State Government Act 2 3 4 Summary 5 While government waste and inefficiency are not the sole cause of state budget shortfalls and tax increases, they do play a significant role. States can create commissions 6 comprised of business leaders and management experts to scrutinize government 8 management practices and develop cost-cutting recommendations in order to save 9 taxpayer dollars and reduce the size of government. 10 11 This Act establishes the Commission on Economy and Productivity to seek to operate a 12 broad management improvement program, to maximize program revenues, reduce costs, 13 and recommend programs of cost avoidance. 14 {Title, enacting clause, etc.}

Section 1. This Act may be cited as the Commission on Economy and Productivity in State Government Act. 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 Section 2. {Legislative Findings.} The legislature finds that the diverse nature of state 22 23 programs and the size of operations demands that state managers carry prime 24 responsibility for the management operations process and must provide sufficient 25 flexibility to enable managers to operate their programs efficiently. In addition, the legislature declares that respective agencies must exercise management improvement 26 27 initiatives and must meet certain standards of operational productivity and efficiency. While recognizing that government must undertake tasks that have no private sector 28 counterpart, it is incumbent that state managers seek to operate their programs in the most 29 30 efficient and cost-effective manner possible. The legislature further recognizes that 31 modern business practices may offer ways in which state operations could be conducted 32 more efficiently. The legislature declares that the increasing pressure on the state's tax base demands that maximum productivity be achieved in state operations, and establishes 33 34 the Commission on Economy and Productivity to seek to operate a broad management 35 improvement program to maximize program revenues, reduce costs and recommend 36 programs of cost avoidance. 37 38 Section 3. {Definitions.} 39 40 (A) "Commission" means the [state] Commission on Economy and Productivity in state 41 government. 42 43 (B) "State agency" means:

(1) a board, commission, department, institution, office, or other agency in the executive branch of state government that is created by the constitution or by

46	a statute of this state;
47 48 49	(2) the Supreme Court of [state], the Court of Criminal Appeals [or appropriate court], any court of appeals, or other agency in the judicial branch of state government; or
50 51	(3) an institution of higher education as defined by [cite appropriate State code Section].
52 53	Section 4. {Commission members.}
54 55	(A) The State Commission on Economy and Productivity in state government is created.
56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68	(B) The Commission is composed of 15 members. Membership in the Commission shall be determined by the Governor and shall include only one State Senator, one State Representative, and appropriate representatives of the private sector. Appointments to the Commission shall be made without regard to the race, creed, sex, religion, handicap, or national origin of the appointee. The terms of the members expire [insert appropriate date two years after enactment of this Act.]  (C) The Governor and [insert appropriate titles of Senate and House leaders] together shall appoint one individual to serve as the executive director of the Commission.  (D) A vacancy on the Commission shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner in which the original appointment was made.
69 70 71 72	(E) The Commission shall elect its own chairman. The election shall take place during the first organizational meeting of the Commission. The chairman shall vote on all matters before the board. A majority constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.
73 74 75	(F) The Commission shall meet at least once every two months. The Commission may meet at other times at the call of the chairman.
76 77 78 79	(G) A member of the Commission shall not receive compensation for serving on the Commission. A member is entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred while performing functions as a member of the Commission.
80 81 82 83	(H) The Commission is subject to the open meetings law [cite appropriate Section of the state code] and the Administrative Procedure and Register Act [or appropriate Section of the state code].
84 85	Section 5. {General powers and duties of the Commission.}
86 87 88 89	(A) The Commission shall conduct a comprehensive review of the operation and administration of each state agency to identify opportunities for better use of available state funds by eliminating waste and reducing or avoiding costs. The Commission shall recommend to each agency procedures for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of

## MOTION TO REPEAL

90 91 92 93	the agency without reducing its level of service. The Commission shall include a brief description of the recommendations made to each agency in its reports to the legislature under Section 6 of this Act.
93 94 95	(B) The Commission shall conduct an analysis of each state agency and of its employee job performance and productivity to determine the feasibility of:
96 97	(1) streamlining, reorganizing, consolidating, contracting out, or eliminating functions performed by the agency;
98 99 100	(2) reducing duplicative staffing;
100 101 102	(3) improving space use;
103 104 105	(4) increasing the agency's capacity to deliver services and improving its responsiveness to citizens;
106 107	(5) curbing the proliferation of paperwork and the costs of processing and storing paperwork;
108 109 110	(6) streamlining purchasing procedures;
111 111 112	(7) improving word processing, computer, and other informational systems;
113 114	(8) improving energy conservation by the agency;
115 116	(9) decreasing the costs associated with motor vehicles procedures;
117 118	(10) improving internal budgeting and financial administration procedures;
119 120	(11) contracting with private sector firms to conduct commercial activities currently performed by the agency;
121 122 123	(12) improving staff training and professional development programs;
124 125	(13) improving the performance of agency administrators;
126 127	(14) establishing techniques for the measurement of productivity and the evaluation of employee performance; and
128 129	(15) other methods or procedures designed to improve the use of state funds.
130 131 132	(C) The Commission shall examine the feasibility of creating a financial incentive program for state employees to provide awards for employees who devise ways of reducing or eliminating expenses or improving operations.
133 134	(D) The Commission shall communicate with the management of major corporations

135	doing business in [state] to identify private sector management practices and innovations
136	that could be applicable to state operations. This network shall serve as a mechanism for
137	recruiting on-loan private sector executives with special expertise to participate in
138	management projects.
139	
140	(E) The Commission shall employ the staff necessary to administer this Act. With the
141	advice and approval of the director of [appropriate state budget office], the Commission
142	shall employ employees of the board on a temporary or contractual basis to perform as
143	much of the analytical work required by this Act as is feasible.
144	
145	(F) The Commission shall be supported in part by the private sector to encourage private
146	sector involvement in the Commission's activities.
147	
148	Section 6. {Reports.} The Commission shall prepare two reports for presentation to the
149	legislature relating to techniques and procedures for improving the efficiency and
150	economy of state government and providing for the implementation of those techniques
151	and procedures. An interim report shall be presented eight months after enactment of this
152	Act [insert appropriate date]. The final report shall be presented 18 months after
153	enactment of [insert appropriate date]. The final report must include an analysis and
154	evaluation of the state fiscal note process as it relates to the development of state fiscal
155	policies and plans.
156	
157	Section 7. {Expiration.} This Act expires and the Commission is abolished [insert
158	appropriate date two years after enactment].
159	
160	Section 8. {Severability clause.}
161	Castian () (Danaslar status)
162	Section 9. {Repealer clause.}
163	Section 10. {Effective date.}
164	Section 7. {Expiration.} This Act expires and the Commission is abolished [insert appropriate date two years after enactment].  Section 8. {Severability clause.}  Section 9. {Repealer clause.}  Section 10. {Effective date.}
165	ALEC's Sourcebook of American State Legislation 1995

1	ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL:
2	<b>Building Life Extension for State Buildings Act</b>
3	
4	{Title, enacting clause, etc.}
5	
6	<b>Section 1. {Introduction}</b> A proposal to amend the laws of <b>{insert state}</b> to
7	require a life extension study for buildings to be replaced by the state.
8	
9	Section 2. {Requirement for Life Extension Study}
10	(A) To a second dead were second in the size of a size of a second in the second in th
11 12	(A) To ensure that proper consideration is given to economically effective options
13	for extending the life of an existing building, the agency responsible for each building system may support each request for funding renovation and shall support
14	each request for funding of the replacement of a building with a building life
15	extension study.
16	extension study.  (B) The building life extension study shall calculate:
17	(B) The building life extension study shall calculate:
18	(1) The current service life of the building by considering:
19	(a) The design life of the major components of the building.
20	
21	(b) The installed cost of the major components.
22	
23	(c) The remaining useful life of the major components.
24	
25	(2) The cost of extending the service life by five, ten, and twenty-five
26	years respectively.
27	
28	(C) The agency shall compare the calculations with the proposed cost and extended
29	service life of the proposed renovated or replaced building.
30	(D) For the numbers of this costice "ancien common ant" in cludes the following
31 32	(D) For the purposes of this section, "major component" includes the following
33	elements of a building: (1) Foundation
34	(2) Roofing
35	(3) Interior construction
36	(4) Plumbing
37	(5) Electrical systems
38	(6) Heating and cooling systems
39	
40	Section 3. {Repealer Clause}
41	
42	Section 4. {Effective Date}
43	
44	
45	Adopted by the Tax & Fiscal Policy Task Force at the States and Nation Policy
46	Summit, December 4, 2004. Approved by the full ALEC Board of Directors January, 2005.

ALEC MODEL BILL TO REPEAL: 1 Internet Taxation Resolution 2 3 4 Summary 5 America's current unprecedented economic expansion is being driven, in large part, by 6 the explosive growth of Internet companies and electronic commerce. The robust 7 development of electronic commerce has attracted the attention of government officials 8 committed to establishing tax authority over Internet transactions. In 1998 the US 9 Congress, in a move to protect the further development of this emerging technology and 10 marketplace, instituted a three-year moratorium on Internet taxation. As the moratorium draws to a close, state and local officials continue to push for taxation authority on the 11 12 grounds that federal restriction constitutes a violation of states' rights. But arguments for 13 taxing electronic commerce ignore legal precedents based firmly in the US Constitution. 14 According to rulings by the US Supreme Court, attempts to impose state and local taxes on out-of-state Internet companies may represent a violation of the Commerce Clause. 15 16 This resolution calls for state governments to refrain from taxing electronic commerce and allow it to continue to grow in an unfettered environment. 17 18 19 Model Resolution WHEREAS, electronic commerce is considered an engine for future economic 20 21 22 prosperity; and 23 WHEREAS, electronic commerce provides entrepreneurs and small business the ability 24 to expand their markets and reach out to customers across the globe; and 25 26 WHEREAS, current tax policy could subject electronic commerce transactions to 27 28 multiple taxation from multiple jurisdictions; and 29 WHEREAS, The United States Supreme Court has consistently ruled that the 30 31 Constitution places strict limits on the ability of state and local governments to impose tax burdens on interstate commerce; and 32 33 34 WHEREAS, efforts by state and local governments to apply existing tax policy to electronic commerce would violate constitutional limits on their taxing authority; and 35 36 WHEREAS, absent these constitutional limitations, the ability of entrepreneurs and 37 38 small businesses to compete in the global marketplace would be severely limited; and 39 40 WHEREAS, the vast majority of electronic commerce transactions would be exempt 41 under traditional existing sales tax policy, e.g. transactions for services or business-to 42 business transactions; and 43 44 WHEREAS, state and local governments are currently experiencing a period of strong 45 revenue growth and record budget surpluses; and

### MOTION TO REPEAL

47 48 49	WHEREAS, businesses operating in the global electronic marketplace are currently subject to a number of other state and local taxes; and
50 51 52 53	WHEREAS, independent studies have concluded that the current revenue loss to state governments from the non-taxation of the Internet is less than one-half of one percent; and
54 55 56 57	WHEREAS, the average working American family already faces the highest tax burden in our nation's history, paying close to 40 percent of its income in local, state and federal taxes; and
58 59	WHEREAS, the current federal moratorium on Internet taxation has laid the foundation for the explosive and revolutionary growth of a vital sector of the economy; and
60 61 62	WHEREAS, the current federal moratorium on Internet taxation will expire in 2001; and
63 64 65	WHEREAS, the US Congress has empanelled the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce to study all aspects of electronic commerce and the Internet;
66 67 68	NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the American Legislative Exchange Council believes that the current federal moratorium on Internet taxation should be extended to allow a thorough examination of all aspects of electronic commerce; and
69 70 71	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ALEC believes the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce should examine the question of "whether" the Internet should be
72 73	taxed, and not just "how" to tax the Internet; and
74 75 76	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ALEC believes that unless there is a fundamental reform of existing tax policy within the Constitutional limitations placed on state and local governments taxing authority, the federal moratorium on Internet taxation should
77 78	be extended indefinitely.
79 80 81	Adopted by ALEC's Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force at the Fall Task Force Summit November 13, 1999. Approved by full ALEC Board of Directors December, 1999.
82 83	



## In defense of ALEC

### ALEC helps lawmakers learn from one another

By Leah Vukmir Oct. 19, 2012

Let's face it: Our nation's economy has been in a slump for years, and this has had a devastating impact on the finances of states and localities across the country. It's no different here in Wisconsin. We can't wait for the federal government to get its act together; we need to advance pro-growth policies of our own in order to bring stability and create opportunity in this state.

According to a national study that examines the economic policies of all 50 states conducted by economist Arthur Laffer, Wall Street Journal reporter Stephen Moore and Jonathan Williams of ALEC's (American Legislative Exchange Council) Center for State Fiscal Reform - Wisconsin ranks near the bottom for economic performance.

The study found that one of the biggest obstacles to economic progress in our state comes in the form of high tax rates for companies and individuals alike; the property tax burden on Wisconsinites is through the roof. On average, Wisconsin taxpayers hand over \$43.52 to the government per \$1,000 of personal income, according to the 2012 ALEC-Laffer State Economic Competitiveness Index. This ranks ninth worst in the country, and is just one example of the tax burdens facing hard-working families from Racine to Superior, and everywhere in between.

My legislative colleagues and I have begun and continue to take the necessary steps to restore fiscal sanity here in Wisconsin by reforming state spending programs and increasing economic competitiveness.

In 2011, Wisconsin faced a \$3.6 billion budget deficit attributed to out-of-control spending and unfunded pension liabilities. To combat this, the governor and state legislators had a choice to either raise taxes on already overburdened families and workers or cut government spending.

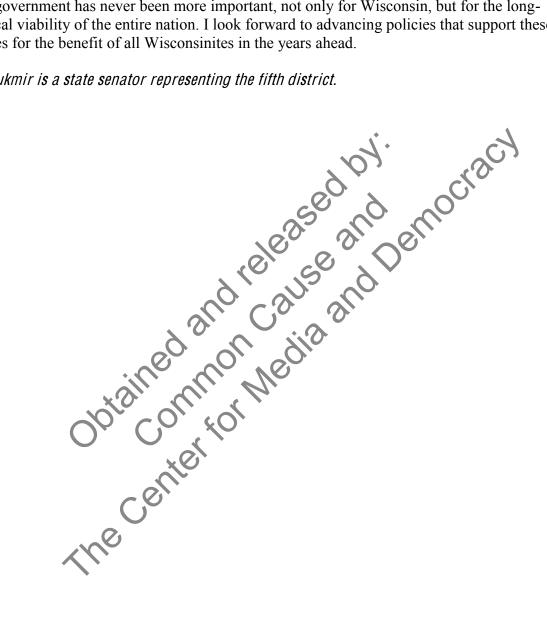
While contentious, Gov. Scott Walker advanced the Act 10 legislation that asked state workers to contribute more to their health insurance premiums and pensions. Wisconsin is already reaping the rewards to the tune of hundreds of millions of dollars in savings to taxpayers.

It's only through free-market, pro-growth and limited government measures, promoted by ALEC, that our state will be able to move its economy forward in these perilous times of economic uncertainty. One promising sign for Wisconsin's future is that the same economic survey referenced above has our state's near-term economic outlook improving, ranking 32nd among 50

states. In order to remain on this path, we must hold strong to advancing practical, pro-growth policies at the state level.

That's why membership in ALEC is so critical. It ensures a collaborative effort between lawmakers in all 50 states so that we can learn from each other and exchange ideas to produce more effective public policy. Maintaining a commitment to the principles of free-markets and limited government has never been more important, not only for Wisconsin, but for the longterm fiscal viability of the entire nation. I look forward to advancing policies that support these principles for the benefit of all Wisconsinites in the years ahead.

Leah Vukmir is a state senator representing the fifth district.



### **ALEC** works with lawmakers

Ron Scheberle

Published 6:20 p.m., Monday, September 17, 2012

While Washington has become gridlocked and largely ineffective, the real legislative action is happening at the state level. Why? Because it has to.

Years of irresponsible spending, heavy-handed mandates and burdensome regulations from Washington have had real effects on state budgets. And, unlike Washington, states can't print more money or change the rules to suit untenable financial situations. Lawmakers have to face the music, deal with the consequences and do what their constituents elected them to do: find solutions.

This is where groups like the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) come in. For nearly 40 years, the organization has provided a platform for legislators to debate and share ideas. It has brought legislators together with job creators in their states. And it has served as the only voluntary-membership organization of legislators and private-sector members from all 50 states and from both sides of the aisle who support limited government and free-market enterprise.

At a time when attention to economic issues is needed most, voters understand that policymakers coming together to address, debate, discuss and make policy around these issues is critical.

For example, and of most interest to Bay Area residents, ALEC's Communications and Technology Task Force has been studying the effects of state and local regulations on new e-commerce services, such as online dating, shopping and car reservation services. The impacts to businesses in this arena, and to the communities in which their employees work and live, are substantial. As one example, Uber, the San Francisco-based car reservation service, has been delayed in rolling out its taxi reservation service in New York due to antiquated local regulations that have left would-be customers waiting for rides and Uber's drivers waiting for fares.

For good reason, ALEC is an organization that provides research and analysis that helps legislators improve regulatory climates in the states, balance state budgets and keep taxes low for constituents, businesses and consumers.

It provides a forum for legislators from different states and from different parties to come together to discuss ways to get their states on stronger economic footing and their people back to work.

Businesses participate in these discussions but it is our legislative membership and board that ultimately develop the policies and bring them back to their statehouses, where they debate the ments of each proposal with their colleagues. ALEC is fortunate to provide this invaluable service to legislators, helping them be the most effective, informed advocates they can be for their constituents.

State lawmakers have direct responsibility to their constituents. They confront big problems and their constituents have asked big things of them. ALEC works to help lawmakers who believe in solutions over rhetoric, markets over mandates, and people over politics.

We look forward to continuing to support state legislators, to connecting them with the enterprises most invested in their communities, and to ensuring they are meeting the expectations of their constituents - men and women who, right now, want them to be focusing on common-sense solutions that get the economy moving again.

Ron Scheberle is the executive director of the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), based in Washington, D.C.

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### Study shows free-market enterprise is path to prosperity in RI

By Meg Fraser 10/17/2012

As the General Election fast approaches, the Rhode Island Center for Freedom and Prosperity (RICFP) believes that it isn't politics that the Ocean State needs – it's policy.

"Today, our Rhode Island Center for Freedom and Prosperity recommends a get the government out of the way approach to getting control of the Rhode Island economy," said center CEO Mike Stenhouse, a resident of Cranston, during a press conference last Thursday at Legion Bowl on Park Avenue.

When left to its own devices, Stenhouse says Rhode Island government has created an economic climate that strangles small business.

"We've created one of the most burdensome tax and regulation environments," he said. "We must tear down these intrusive barriers. No one in the political class seems to want to address the problem."

RICFP has issued a report card on the state's competitiveness, which claims that a "departure from capitalism" is to blame for the state's poor economic condition. The center gives Rhode Island an F in nearly every category, including tax burden, business climate, infrastructure, health care and living and retiring in the state. Rhode Island likewise performs poorly in public sector (D), energy (D-), spending and debt (D-) and employment and income (D). Education earned the highest grade on the report card, still a dismal D+.

With high unemployment and a high cost of living, Stenhouse says that people are leaving Rhode Island at an alarming rate.

"They are moving in droves. They're taking their wealth with them; they're taking their kids with them and they're taking our future with them," he said.

A graph the center provided shows that between 2003 and 2010, the net adjusted gross income (AGI) and taxpayer migration to nearby states amounts to a loss of \$254.46 million -2.802 tax returns in that time period.

Stenhouse argues that the loss of revenue, and the stagnant nature of the economy, is as serious an issue as pension reform. He questions why the General Assembly has not sprung into action in a similar fashion on these issues, going into a special session this

fall. What has been done to address the problem so far, he said, is just a window dressing "to forestall critical public policy issues."

When Stenhouse suggested, instead, a return to free enterprise, the crowd applauded.

"Revenue-neutral approaches are not going to be enough," he said. "If you want a bigger economic pie in Rhode Island, we need a new recipe."

In particular, the center and its supporters believe that taxes and spending needs to be cut. Where to start with spending cuts is a difficult question to answer, but Stenhouse said they would be looking into it in the coming months. In the meantime, he says the state should create a priority-based budget, rather than starting with the previous year's budget and adding costs from there. It is incumbent then on department directors to justify their costs.

"A narrow-minded balancing the budget approach sees taxes as revenues. An economist ... should see taxes as incentives or disincentives to do things," Stenhouse said.

On an easel at the front of the room, two columns displayed different sets of numbers. In the first column, the numbers 75, 38 and 400 were listed without clarification. In the second column were the numbers 65, zero and 5,000.

Those numbers represent an alternative to the 38 Studios debacle. With 38 Studios, the state invested \$75 million for 400 jobs that no longer exist. In the future, the center would suggest a different approach. Less money – \$65 million – could be used to phase out the sales tax to zero percent, which Stenhouse argues could create 5,000 jobs by making Rhode Island more competitive, like New Hampshire.

Stenhouse added that the idea is "well researched" and is part of the reason New Hampshire has fared better economically than Rhode Island.

Barry Hinckley, a candidate for U.S. Senate challenging Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, attended the conference and said the idea of lowering taxes is always favorable.

"Everything, when it comes to reform, especially revenue reform, has to be looked at holistically. Rhode Island, by the numbers, has developed the least competitive environment to attract citizens and taxpayers, so I'd rather look at holistic reform that would bring us close to the standard-bearing states like New Hampshire, Florida and Texas," he said.

Hinckley compared states to companies, in that they compete against one another, except instead of profits or customers, they compete for taxpayers.

"I would like a holistic approach that creates a tax package, making Rhode Island in the top five competitive states for tax attractiveness rather than the bottom five," he said,

noting that while sales taxes would be part of that package, low or no income taxes and low taxes on businesses are particularly advantageous.

In addition to eliminating sales taxes, the "Prosperity Agenda" cites repealing health insurance exchanges and Medicaid expansion as a potentially high-impact policy reform. Eliminating corporate welfare, instituting school choice through vouchers, tort reform, lowering minimum wage to federal standards and reforming collective bargaining for public employees also made the list.

Backing up the center's positions last week was financial expert Jonathan Williams, author of "Rich States, Poor States," from the Center for State Fiscal Reform. He believes that the public sector must be limited, and that the growth of the public sector in Rhode Island in particular is unsustainable. In his book, he argues that states must reduce the size of government and eliminate or minimize what he considers outdated taxes, like "death" taxes or high property taxes.

By making a state more desirable to live in, and making the commercial tax climate more appealing, he says that revenue, economic revival and jobs will follow.

"Government doesn't create wealth, so therefore government doesn't create jobs," he said.

Though unlikely in Rhode Island, Williams also said that becoming a Right to Work state has proven successful for some states, as there are some businesses that "will not even consider a state for an investment unless they are a right to work state."

The challenges here are vast, but Williams and Stenhouse see hope in the future.

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"Not all is lost; there is hope for Rhode Island," Williams said. "Each state gets to choose its path, and it's not necessarily about Republican or Democrat either."



July 18, 2012, 11:45 a.m. EDT

# Lincome Tax Relief: Hoops star Jeremy Lin saves over \$1 million per year in taxes moving from New York to Texas

WASHINGTON, July 18, 2012 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ The following is being released by the Americans for Tax Reform:

Jeremy Lin took the NBA by storm in 2012, rising from undrafted Harvard grad to one of the most popular New York Knicks players in a decade. Lin led the Knicks to wins in his first six starts, and became the first player in NBA history to score 20 points and record seven assists in each of his first five starts. After a last second game-winning three pointer against the Toronto Raptors, his rise to stardom was known ubiquitously as "Linsanity."

After signing a three year, \$25.1 million contract with the Houston Rockets, Lin moves from one of the highest taxed states in the country to one of the lowest. As a Knick, Lin paid a top state income tax rate of 8.82 percent, with New York City piling on at 3.876 percent. As a Houston Rocket, however, he will have no state or local tax burden.

At an average salary of \$8,366,667, Lin will save over \$1 million annually in state and local income taxes.

NEW YORK STATE TAX BURDEN \$323,034.01 PER YEAR
NEW YORK CITY TAX BURDEN \$717,382.03 PER YEAR
TEXAS STATE TAX BURDEN \$0 PER YEAR
HOUSTON CITY TAX BURDEN \$0 PER YEAR
TOTAL INCOME TAX SAVINGS \$1,040,416.04 PER YEAR

In total, Jeremy Lin will save over \$3.12 million in income taxes over the life of his contract with the Rockets. Factoring in his endorsement earnings, the number climbs even higher.

Just as the Rockets will compete against the Knicks on the basketball court, Texas and New York are competitors in the economic sphere. New York's crushing tax burden is a compelling factor in chasing elite athletic talent to states like Texas, just as it has steadily pushed job creators and families out of the state.

This should not be a surprise, as the nine no-income tax states have consistently outperformed the high-tax states, like New York, over the past decade. According to the 2012 American Legislative Exchange Council's Rich States, Poor States report:

In terms of gross state product growth, the nine states without a personal income tax outperformed the nine states with the highest personal income tax by 39 percent over the past decade.

The nine states without a personal income tax have outperformed the U.S. average by over 25 percent over the past decade.

Average population growth among the nine no-tax states was 148 percent higher than in the nine high tax states over the past decade.

Americans for Tax Reform is a non-partisan coalition of taxpayers and taxpayer groups who oppose all tax increases. For more information or to arrange an interview please contact John Kartch at (202) 785-0266 or by email at jkartch@atr.org

SOURCE Americans for Tax Reform

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### SCHOLARSHIP POLICY BY MEETING

### ALEC Spring Task Force Summit:

- 1. **Spring Task Force Summit Reimbursement Form:** ALEC Task Force Members are reimbursed by ALEC up to a predetermined set limit for travel expenses. Receipts must be forwarded to the ALEC Policy Coordinator and approved by the Director of Policy.
- 2. ALEC Task Force Members' room & tax fees for a two-night stay are covered by ALEC.
- 3. Official Alternate Task Force Members (chosen by the State Chair and whose names are given to ALEC more than 35 days prior to the meeting to serve in place of a Task Force Member who cannot attend) are reimbursed in the same manner as Task Force Members.
- 4. **State Scholarship Reimbursement Form**: Any fees above the set limit, or expenses other than travel and room expenses can be submitted by Task Force Members for payment from their state scholarship account upon the approval of the State Chair. Receipts must be submitted to the State Chair, who will submit the signed form to the Director of Membership.
- 5. Non-Task Force Members can be reimbursed out of the state scholarship fund upon State Chair approval. Receipts must be submitted to the State Chair, who will submit the appropriate signed form to the Director of Membership.

### ALEC Annual Meeting.

State Scholarship Reimbursement Form: State scholarship funds are available for reimbursement by approval of your ALEC State Chair. Expenses are reimbursed after the conference, and may cover the cost of travel, room & tax, and registration. Receipts are to be submitted to the State Chair, who will then submit the signed form to the Director of Membership.

### ALEC States & Nation Policy Summit:

- 1. States & Nation Policy Summit Řeimbursement Form: ALEC offers two scholarships per state to cover the cost of travel, room & tax, and registration not to exceed \$1,000.00 per person for a total of \$2,000.00 per state. ALEC scholarship recipients must be named by the ALEC State Chair. Expenses are submitted to the State Chair and reimbursed after the conference. The State Chair submits the signed form to the Director of Membership.
- 2. **State Scholarship Reimbursement Form**: Any other fees or payments must come out of the state scholarship account, with the approval of the State Chair. Receipts must be submitted to the State Chair, who submits the signed form to the Director of Membership.

### ALEC Academies:

**Academy Reimbursement Form:** Attendees of ALEC Academies are reimbursed by the Task Force Committee hosting the Academy. Attendees will receive a form at the Academy, and will be reimbursed up to \$500.00 for travel, and room & tax fees for a two-night stay by ALEC. Receipts must be forwarded to the appropriate Task Force Director and approved by the Director of Policy.



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