

**Subject:** Re: Public Records Request (AZ-GOV-22-0406)  
**Date:** Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 7:53:04 PM Eastern Daylight Time  
**From:** Morgan Carr  
**To:** AO Records  
**CC:** Communications@az.gov  
**Attachments:** American Oversight - Heritage ALEC other orgs production.pdf

EXTERNAL SENDER

Good afternoon,

Please see the attached responsive records to your request. Thank you!

--

**Morgan Carr** | **Office of Arizona Governor Doug Ducey**

*Deputy Communications Director*

E: [mcarr@az.gov](mailto:mcarr@az.gov)

On Mon, Apr 25, 2022 at 2:34 PM Morgan Carr <[mcarr@az.gov](mailto:mcarr@az.gov)> wrote:

Good afternoon,

We have received your request and are currently processing. Please let us know if you have any questions in the meantime.

--

**Morgan Carr** | **Office of Arizona Governor Doug Ducey**

*Deputy Communications Director*

E: [mcarr@az.gov](mailto:mcarr@az.gov)

On Mon, Apr 25, 2022 at 2:32 PM AO Records <[records@americanoversight.org](mailto:records@americanoversight.org)> wrote:

Dear Public Records Officer:

Please find attached a request for records under Arizona's Public Records Law.

Sincerely,

--

Marwah Adhoob

Pronouns: she/her

Paralegal

American Oversight

[records@americanoversight.org](mailto:records@americanoversight.org)

[www.americanoversight.org](http://www.americanoversight.org) | @weareoversight

PRR: AZ-GOV-22-0406

**From:** Russell Vought <russ@americarenewing.com>  
**Sent:** 11/11/2021 9:44:05 AM  
**To:** druiz@az.gov; aharding@az.gov  
**Cc:** J.Wade Miller <wade@americarenewing.com>; Ken C <ktc21968@gmail.com>  
**Subject:** How States Can Secure the Border

---

Gentlemen-

My name is Russ Vought, and I served as President Trump's Budget Director. I now lead the Center for Renewing America which is very active on border security issues. Our lead fellow on this is Ken Cuccinelli. I wanted to make you aware of our paper on what border state governors can do unilaterally to secure the border. We do not believe the Biden Administration is going to change their policies, and that it's time to invoke authorities that have fallen into disuse.

In short, Ken has proposed that governors in border states should cite state war powers and activate and deploy all units to the southern border with specific orders to the commanding officers of the National Guard to detain and return illegal immigrants back across the border, turn back illegal immigrants to Mexico at the border, and defend against Cartel operatives. The Constitution gives states the authority to act if "invaded, or in such imminent Danger as will not admit delay" under Article 1, Section, Clause 3.

<https://americarenewing.com/issues/policy-brief-how-states-can-secure-the-border/>

Ken and I would welcome getting on the phone with your team or traveling to AZ to discuss with the governor. Please let us know if either is a possibility. Best,

Russ Vought  
President, Center for Renewing America  
703-203-1414

**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <jbethke@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 11/11/2021 4:38:54 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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### Draft Model Policies Now Online- States and Nation Policy Summit 2021

The draft model policies that are up for discussion at the 2021 States and Nation Policy Summit are now live on [ALEC.org](https://alec.org). For questions about the policies listed, please email the Director of the appropriate Task Force.



While we hope to see each of you in-person, please remember that in order to participate in the virtual sub-committees, you must be

registered by November 17<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, Task Force selections must be finalized by November 22. [Subcommittee dates and times can be found here.](#)

Join us December 1-3 in beautiful San Diego, California. For more information on the States and Nations Policy agenda, please visit our [meetings website.](#)

[Register Today](#)



### Winsome Sears Joining ALEC in San Diego



Former ALEC Legislator Winsome Sears is joining us in San Diego! Winsome is the Virginia Lt. Governor Elect, making history as the first black woman elected to the office. After immigrating to the United States at the age of six and proudly serving in the United States Marines, Lt. Gov. Elect Sears' story is nothing short of inspiring. Learn about Lt. Gov. Elect Sears and more at the 2021



### Stay Tuned for More Exciting Speakers



In the coming days and weeks, find out more of our all-star speaker lineup, and join us at [The Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego, CA, December 1-3.](#)

Registration is open, and we cannot wait to see you there. Register and secure your spot in the hotel room block.

AZ-GOV-22-0406-A-000002



**Plan to Join the Article V Discussion in San Diego**

ALEC will host an Article V Academy featuring the nation's largest Article V organizations who will discuss potential constitutional amendments aimed at restoring federal fiscal responsibility; addressing campaign money corruption and instituting congressional term limits. Join us at the onset of the ALEC States and Nation Policy Summit in San Diego or virtually on **Wednesday,**



**December 1 from 7:00 AM - 11:15 AM PST.** State lawmaker attendees both virtual and in-person will be able to cast their ballots for the ideas they believe are best suited to meet America's challenges. Registration is required.

Contact Karla Jones at [kjones@alec.org](mailto:kjones@alec.org) for more information about this groundbreaking event. If interested, please [Register here](#).

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**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <srupp@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 11/15/2021 10:27:51 AM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Are You Joining us in San Diego?

Come See Gov. Kristi Noem

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### Are you joining us in San Diego?

#### Don't miss your chance to hear from South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem!

Ranked as one of the top 5 Governor's in the first ever Governors ranking from the [2020 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom](#), Governor Kristi Noem is setting the bar for how to lead well.



In 2010, after serving in the South Dakota legislature for several years, Noem was elected to serve as South Dakota's lone member of the U.S. House of Representatives. During her time in Congress, in addition to many other successes, Governor Noem helped pass the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which put \$2,400 back in the pockets of the average South Dakota family.

In 2018, with the platform of protecting South Dakotans against tax increases, government growth, federal intrusion, and government secrecy, she was elected as South Dakota's first-ever female Governor.

As Governor, Noem has respected the rights of her people by trusting them to exercise their personal responsibility to make the best decisions for themselves, their loved-ones, and – in turn – their communities. This approach has been most evident in her response to the COVID-19 pandemic: Governor Noem never ordered a single business or church to close and never issued a statewide shelter-in-place order.



**Winsome Sears**  
Joining ALEC in San Diego



Former ALEC Legislator Winsome Sears is joining us in San Diego! Winsome is the Virginia Lt. Governor Elect, making history as



**The Bradley Forum: Harnessing Parental Engagement in Education**



The environment has never been more ripe for longneeded reform in education. School lockdowns, the promotion of divisive curricula and efforts to demonize and silence parents

the first black woman elected to the office. After immigrating to the United States at the age of six and proudly serving in the United States Marines, Lt. Gov. Elect Sears' story is nothing short of inspiring. Learn about Lt. Gov. Elect Sears and more at the 2021 States and Nation Policy Summit.

who seek to have a voice in how their children are educated are driving parental engagement in education. Parents who once sat on the sidelines of education policy are now running for school boards, lobbying state legislatures, and are opting for alternatives to traditional education models. In this session, we will hear from leaders in this space who can show you how to harness the unprecedented momentum to reform education, from what's being taught in the classroom, to legislation that can open opportunity for all students.

The **2021 States and Nation Policy Summit** will be hosted **December 1-3** in **San Diego, CA!**

[Registration is open](#) and the American Legislative Exchange Council's (ALEC) members and friends are looking forward to joining together, in-person, in just a few short weeks!

As agendas for the 2022 legislative session are starting to take shape so is the program for the upcoming States and Nation Policy Summit. The Summit is set to have an issue-packed schedule touching on subjects from education reform, date transparency, police officer training support to content moderation. [Click here](#) to see all the model policies that are up for discussion. Join the conversation and be a part of the solution on critical issues facing the states and nation. The past few years has brought uncertainty and many questions, but the future is bright.

Remember, subcommittee meetings will be held virtually in advance of the States and Nation Policy Summit. Be sure to register by **November 17<sup>th</sup>** to receive the details on joining the meetings. To view the current agenda for the meeting, visit the ALEC meetings website [here](#).



The **Exhibit Hall** is a popular networking hub for state legislators and policy experts, making exhibiting an effective medium to get your message out to state and local leaders, policymakers and industry professionals.

Contact [ALEC Events Team](#) today to secure your spot in the upcoming Exhibit Hall.



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**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <srupp@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 11/18/2021 4:27:41 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Join us in San Diego

Come See Gov. Kristi Noem

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### Are you joining us in San Diego?

#### Don't miss your chance to hear from South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem!

Ranked as one of the top 5 Governor's in the first ever Governors ranking from the [2020 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom](#), Governor Kristi Noem is setting the bar for how to lead well.



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In 2018, with the platform of protecting South Dakotans against tax increases, government growth, federal intrusion and government secrecy, she was elected as South Dakota's first-ever female Governor.

As Governor, Noem has been a champion of individual liberty, helping the people of South Dakota to make the best decisions for themselves, their loved-ones, and – in turn – their communities. This approach has been most evident in her response to the COVID-19 pandemic: Governor Noem never ordered a single business or church to close and never issued a statewide shelter-in-place order.

**Register before November 22 to make sure you guarantee your ability to vote in your task forces!**



**Winsome Sears**  
Joining ALEC in San Diego



Learn More about the Wounded Warrior Project in San Diego



Former ALEC Legislator Winsome Sears is joining us in San Diego! Winsome is the Virginia Lt. Governor Elect, making history as the first black woman elected to the office. After immigrating to the United States at the age of six and proudly serving in the United States Marines, Lt. Gov. Elect Sears' story is nothing short of inspiring. Learn about Lt. Gov. Elect Sears and more at the 2021 States and Nation Policy Summit.

Learn more about America's veterans with the Wounded Warrior Project, and the various ways we can support those who have proudly served.

More than 52,000 servicemen and women have been physically injured in recent military conflicts. 500,000 live with invisible wounds, from depression to post-traumatic stress disorder. 320,000 experience debilitating brain trauma. Wounded Warrior Project's mission is improving the quality of life for those who gave all that they could for our country.



Learn from Fox News Analyst Ned Ryun at the 2021 States and Nation Policy Summit



Among our all-star line up of speakers and experts is **Ned Ryun**, with a special training on data driven messaging. He is the founder and CEO of American Majority, a non-partisan political training institute whose mission is to identify and mold the next wave of liberty-minded candidates, grassroots activists and community leaders.

A former presidential writer for President George W. Bush and the son of former Olympic medalist and U.S. Rep. Jim Ryun (R-KS), Ned has frequently appeared on Fox News, Fox Business, MSNBC and CNN and has been quoted in numerous print publications including Time Magazine, The Wall Street Journal, The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, Politico, The Washington Post, and The Washington Times. He also contributes opinion pieces for American Greatness.



The Bradley Forum: Harnessing Parental Engagement in Education

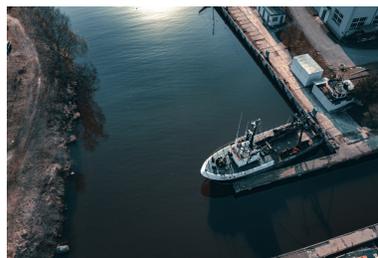


The environment has never been more ripe for long needed reform in education. School lockdowns, the promotion of divisive curricula, and efforts to demonize and silence parents who seek to have a voice in how their children are educated are driving parental engagement in education. Parents who once sat on the sidelines of education policy are now running for school boards, lobbying state legislatures, and are opting for alternatives to traditional education models. In this session, we will hear from leaders in this space who can show you how to harness the unprecedented momentum to reform education, from what's being taught in the classroom, to legislation that can open opportunity for all students.



Join the Tour: Port of Long Beach

Christmas... in March? ALEC legislators are invited to join us for an exclusive supply chain issue briefing and boat tour at the Port of Long Beach. Visit the ground zero of the supply chain crisis to learn about and witness firsthand the complicated challenges, regulations, and contracts facing ports and port workers in the midst of COVID restrictions. Email Gretchen Baldau at [gbaldau@alec.org](mailto:gbaldau@alec.org) to RSVP today.



The **Exhibit Hall** is a popular networking hub for state legislators and policy experts, making exhibiting an effective medium to get your message out to state and local leaders, policymakers and industry professionals.

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**From:** Lisa B. Nelson <lisanelson@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 11/25/2021 12:40:55 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Happy Thanksgiving, From Us to You



ALEC Family,

2021 has been a banner year for ALEC, with triumphs like our Annual Meeting and upcoming [States and Nation Policy Summit](#) leaving us filled with gratitude. In such a memorable year it is easy to give thanks. It is my hope that each and every one of you found an opportunity to innovate, find solutions and even to come together in collaboration this year.

In this time of Thanksgiving, I'm thankful for the steadfast support of our ALEC family – our dedicated and enthusiastic legislative members, innovative private sector partners that come together time and time again to help ALEC be the best it can, and generous donors that make our work and collaboration possible.

I'm thankful for all you've done this year, and for all that we can achieve together in 2022. Because of you, our upcoming [2021 States and Nation Policy Summit](#) is set to be one of our most impactful meetings yet, building on [the success of our Annual Meeting from this summer](#). I'm thankful for those who have already registered and committed to spending time with us next week in San Diego, and hope that [more of you will join in](#).

I find myself thankful for the free-market innovations and partnerships which make the fantastical feats of modern life possible. Most of all, I find myself thankful for a nation that fosters and defends liberty, with limitless opportunity for her citizens.

From us to you, happy Thanksgiving.

Your friend,



Lisa B. Nelson  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Legislative Exchange Council

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**From:** Boone, Nicole (SANRS) <nicole.boone@hyatt.com>  
**Sent:** 11/30/2021 2:28:05 PM  
**To:** Laura Raymond <lraymond@az.gov>  
**Cc:** ncross@az.gov; Courtney Cook <ccook@alec.org>; Sprague, Michele (SANRS) <michele.sprague@hyatt.com>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting Space for ALEC 2021 States & Nation Policy Summit in San Diego

**Attachments:** [image001.png](#), [image002.jpg](#), [image003.jpg](#)

You are all set, Laura!

Please let us know if we can assist with anything else.

Best,  
Nicole

**From:** Laura Raymond <lraymond@az.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 1:00 PM  
**To:** Boone, Nicole (SANRS) <nicole.boone@hyatt.com>  
**Cc:** ncross@az.gov; Courtney Cook <ccook@alec.org>; Sprague, Michele (SANRS) <michele.sprague@hyatt.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting Space for ALEC 2021 States & Nation Policy Summit in San Diego

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That would be great! Thank you, Nicole.

Best,  
**Laura C. Raymond**  
*Director of Scheduling for Governor Ducey & Sr. Personal Assistant to Daniel Ruiz*  
Office of the Arizona Governor Doug Ducey  
1700 W Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
O: (602) 542-1369  
[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)



As you may be aware, Governor Ducey's schedule changes frequently and, at times, virtually at the last minute. Because of the governor's obligations to the state, he could, of necessity, be called away at any time. In the event the governor must miss your event, you will be notified as quickly as possible.

On Tue, Nov 30, 2021 at 1:25 PM Boone, Nicole (SANRS) <[nicole.boone@hyatt.com](mailto:nicole.boone@hyatt.com)> wrote:

Thank you so much Laura! I would maybe just suggest having the room set Conference style for with 8 chairs.

Do you think that will work for you?

Best,  
Nicole

**From:** Laura Raymond <[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 12:11 PM  
**To:** Boone, Nicole (SANRS) <[nicole.boone@hyatt.com](mailto:nicole.boone@hyatt.com)>  
**Cc:** [ncross@az.gov](mailto:ncross@az.gov); Courtney Cook <[ccook@alec.org](mailto:ccook@alec.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting Space for ALEC 2021 States & Nation Policy Summit in San Diego

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Hi Nicole,

I'm adding Courtney back on this email as we were under the impression that we would be able to utilize this room at no charge to the Governor's Office. If that is the case, please see below.

- Will you need any food and beverage? **Food & Beverages are not needed**
- Will you need any audiovisual or Wi-Fi? **Not needed**
- What style setup will serve your event's purpose the best and will you require a registration desk? **These meetings will be brief 2:1's for staff to meet with Arizona Legislators during the ALEC Summit. So we would recommend your feedback on setup.**
- Would you like your meeting posted on our public reader boards? If so, what would you like it to be called? **No need to post these meetings.**
- Will you be my on-site contact day-of? **Art Harding will be the POC for these meetings as he will be onsite. He can be reached at 602-930-9961.**
- Any other details I may need to know:

**Laura C. Raymond**  
*Director of Scheduling for Governor Ducey & Sr. Personal Assistant to Daniel Ruiz*  
Office of the Arizona Governor Doug Ducey  
1700 W Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
O: (602) 542-1369

AZ-GOV-22-0406-A-000010



As you may be aware, Governor Ducey's schedule changes frequently and, at times, virtually at the last minute. Because of the governor's obligations to the state, he could, of necessity, be called away at any time. In the event the governor must miss your event, you will be notified as quickly as possible.

On Tue, Nov 30, 2021 at 12:46 PM Boone, Nicole (SANRS) <[nicole.boone@hyatt.com](mailto:nicole.boone@hyatt.com)> wrote:

Hello Laura,

Very nice to e-meet you! I also wanted to gather some additional details from you below. Once I receive all of your details, I will confirm selections to you on a Group Detail Report and setup billing for your event.

- Will you need any food and beverage? [Welcome to eMenus \(hyattmenus.com\)](#)
- Will you need any audiovisual or Wi-Fi?
- What style setup will serve your event's purpose the best and will you require a registration desk?
- Would you like your meeting posted on our public reader boards? If so, what would you like it to be called?
- Will you be my on-site contact day-of?
- Any other details I may need to know:

**Prepayment**—A 50% deposit (based on the estimate of the program charges) is due with the signed Terms & Conditions which I will send this to you once we have connected on some details of your event. The remaining estimated charges are due **7 days prior to the event**. The hotel does charge a 20% contingency fee just in case you should need to add anything else on during your meeting with us. In the case that the 20% contingency is not utilized, this will be refunded back to you within 3 weeks or less.

Your satisfaction with your pre-event planning, program execution, and every other detail in between is my highest priority, so please do not hesitate to call with any questions or concerns. Thank you once again for choosing the Grand Hyatt San Diego! I look forward to working with you on a successful event.

Kind regards,

**Nicole S. Boone**

*Affiliate Coordinator*

**Manchester Grand Hyatt San Diego**

1 Market Place, San Diego, CA 92101, U.S.A.

+ 1 619 358 6896 TELEPHONE

[nicole.boone@hyatt.com](mailto:nicole.boone@hyatt.com)

[manchester.grand.hyatt.com](http://manchester.grand.hyatt.com)



AAA, 4-Diamond Award  
Cvent, Top 10 Meeting Hotel in the United States  
TripAdvisor, Certificate of Excellence - 4.5 Stars and Higher  
U-T San Diego, #1 Top Workplace, Large Business Category  
San Diego Business Journal, Best Place to Work, Large Business Category

---

**From:** Courtney Cook <[ccook@alec.org](mailto:ccook@alec.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 10:58 AM  
**To:** Laura Raymond <[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)>  
**Cc:** [ncross@az.gov](mailto:ncross@az.gov); Boone, Nicole (SANRS) <[nicole.boone@hyatt.com](mailto:nicole.boone@hyatt.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Meeting Space for ALEC 2021 States & Nation Policy Summit in San Diego

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Hi Laura – Yes, we can confirm these meetings. We will host these in Cortez Hill A on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Manchester Grand Hyatt.

I have added in our hotel contact, Nicole, who can help order any food and beverage or AV you might need.

Thank you!  
Courtney

---

**From:** Laura Raymond <[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 30, 2021 11:43 AM  
**To:** Courtney Cook <[ccook@alec.org](mailto:ccook@alec.org)>  
**Cc:** [ncross@az.gov](mailto:ncross@az.gov); Madison Crawley <[mcrawley@alec.org](mailto:mcrawley@alec.org)>  
**Subject:** Re: Meeting Space for ALEC 2021 States & Nation Policy Summit in San Diego

Courtney,  
I apologize - can we hold a room until 2:00pm on the 2nd (not 12:00pm).

Thank you,  
**Laura C. Raymond**  
*Director of Scheduling for Governor Ducey & Sr. Personal Assistant to Daniel Ruiz*  
Office of the Arizona Governor Doug Ducey  
1700 W Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
O: (602) 542-1369  
[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)

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On Tue, Nov 30, 2021 at 10:40 AM Laura Raymond <[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)> wrote:

Hi Courtney,

It's great to hear from you. Is it possible to hold a room for the dates/times below?

Weds, Dec 1, 2021, from 1:00pm - 4:00pm  
Thurs, Dec 2, 2021, from 10:00am - 12:00pm

Thank you,  
**Laura C. Raymond**  
*Director of Scheduling for Governor Ducey & Sr. Personal Assistant to Daniel Ruiz*  
Office of the Arizona Governor Doug Ducey  
1700 W Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
O: (602) 542-1369  
[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)

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On Mon, Nov 29, 2021 at 7:42 PM Courtney Cook <[ccook@alec.org](mailto:ccook@alec.org)> wrote:

Hi Laura –

Hope you are doing well! Madison shared this request with me and we are happy to find a location for this. Do you have a preferred date and time?

Thank you!  
Courtney

---

**From:** Laura Raymond <[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 29, 2021 4:45 PM  
**To:** Madison Crawley <[mcrawley@alec.org](mailto:mcrawley@alec.org)>  
**Cc:** Naya Carson-Ross <[ncross@az.gov](mailto:ncross@az.gov)>  
**Subject:** Meeting Space for ALEC 2021 States & Nation Policy Summit in San Diego

Hi Madison,

I hope all is well with you. I'm reaching out because we have several staff members who will be attending ALEC 2021 States & Nation Policy Summit in San Diego that would like to schedule meetings during the summit. Is there a room or meeting space that we can use during this time? If not, is there a restaurant that you would recommend?

Thank you,

**Laura C. Raymond**  
*Director of Scheduling for Governor Ducey & Sr. Personal Assistant to Daniel Ruiz*  
Office of the Arizona Governor Doug Ducey  
1700 W Washington St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
O: (602) 542-1369  
[lraymond@az.gov](mailto:lraymond@az.gov)

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AZ-GOV-22-0406-A-000012

GRAND | HYATT





**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <jbethke@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 12/9/2021 4:08:42 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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## States and Nation Policy Summit Recap

What a meeting! Coming off of recent elections, more than 800 attendees gathered in San Diego last week for ALEC's annual States and Nation Policy Summit. Thank you to the legislators, the private sector members and everyone who took the time to invest in stronger policies and healthier communities.

To watch a playlist of the speakers from the event, click below!



### Watch



#### Across the States Podcast



The crisis of homelessness is spreading throughout the United States, impacting over half of a million Americans. But organizations like the Switchpoint Community Resource Center are working to address the problem and make a difference. Join Matthew Fisher as he sits down with Carol Hollowell, Executive Director of Switchpoint, and Andre Cushing of the American City County Exchange as they discuss remedies to homelessness that empower and uplift communities.

Click below to listen!

[Listen](#)



#### 50 Policy Briefings In 50 States



Set your public policy agenda with help from ALEC. If you need guidance on how a policy will create opportunity in your community, ALEC policy experts should be your first stop. ALEC policy experts are criss-crossing the country to provide insight and comparative policy analysis to legislators in every state.

Reserve your state briefing today.

[Reserve your Briefing Today](#)



## 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom, Grading America's Governors

Congratulations to Governor Kristi Noem of South Dakota for ranking first in *The 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom: Grading America's 50 Governors*. This report ranks each governor on their current economic performance and their fiscal and executive policies over their term in office. Governors who were inaugurated into high-performing states and continue positive policies may not be able to improve as much as others but receive credit for their positive performance.



Click below to read the rest of the report!

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This Week at ALEC

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## Inflation Surges to Record High

As the nation continues to recover from COVID-19, the lingering effects of the virus are not the only things troubling Americans. Record-breaking inflation has been keenly felt by consumers in every state.

Inflation surged 6.8% from a year ago in November, [the fastest increase since 1982](#). The Department of Labor notes that annual increases in food and energy prices were the highest in 13 years. Food prices increased 6.1% over the past year. Energy prices have risen 33.3% since November 2020 and gasoline is up 58.1% in the past 12 months. Read our blog post on the issue by clicking below!



[Read](#)

## ALEC Becomes a Member of The US-Taiwan Bilateral Trade Agreement



The American Legislative Exchange Council recently became a member of the US-Taiwan Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) in support of closer ties between the two partners.

Here's a portion of a statement put out by the US-Taiwan BTA:

"Strengthening the US-Taiwan economic and strategic relationship has been a priority for ALEC members for more than a decade, and we are pleased to have them on board to formally express their support for a BTA between the United States and Taiwan." Click below to read our full press release!

[Read](#)

## In the News: Tax Cuts Didn't Lay the Federal Debt Trap



ALEC's Chief economist, Jonathan Williams and Policy Analyst Nick Stark were recently featured in an op-ed published by the National Review.

"Tax cuts are not the reason for the debt trap. Irresponsible-spending growth has created the problem, and unfortunately, the political drama surrounding the federal debt ceiling will continue until Congress can learn to pass responsible budgets." To read their article and its evaluation of our country's debt problem, click below!

[Read](#)

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**Subject:** CEO Update: Warm Winter Wishes from San Diego



Friends,

For those of you who were with us, thank you for joining us at our recent States and Nation Policy Summit meeting in San Diego earlier this month. The resounding success of the meeting would not have been possible without our steadfast supporters – and what a successful meeting it was!

We heard from historical and political visionary [Newt Gingrich](#), Lieutenant Governor elect [Winsome Sears](#), and South Dakota Governor [Kristi Noem](#), who finished as the number one Governor in America in our just released report 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom; Grading America's 50 Governors. We were also able to hear from Oklahoma Governor [Kevin Stitt](#), Senator [Mike Lee](#), and former US Senator [Rick Santorum](#). You can get a taste of what the meeting was all about with [San Diego KUSI's](#) story and on-the-scene reporting.

Our task forces continued to move forward on finding solutions to issues that are front and center in the states in 2022 and analyzed the takeaways and lessons from the recent developments across the country. We heard from speakers who are at the center of the renewed citizen engagement and energy at the county and local levels of government.

ALEC is truly the place where the timeliest issues are discussed, and solutions are created. You can [view the discussed model policy](#) from the meeting, and see those solutions at [ALEC.org](#). Our approved model policies ran the full spectrum of critical issues facing the country, including:

- [Protecting parental rights](#)
- [New and innovative community solar energy solutions](#)
- [Removing financial roadblocks in pharmacies for patients seeking care](#)
- And many more!

The solutions we developed together set the agenda for a productive 2022— and there's a lot of work to do. Our workshops saw robust discussions on national and local education, the current supply chain crisis with hands on learning opportunities at a tour of the Port of Los Angeles, welfare reform, content moderation, the housing crisis, collective bargaining/union reform and proactive measures that can help counter anti-Semitism and criminal activities targeting the Jewish community.

Our outreach to local communities and those in need continues. We heard from [Jose Ramos](#) of the Wounded Warrior Project and learned how we can connect veterans in your communities and towns, with resources that can help these heroes find jobs and support.

We're all grateful for the bounties of 2021 and can't wait to roll up our sleeves, get to work, and see what new heights we find in the coming year. I hope that you and your family have a restful and peaceful holiday season and I look forward to working with you New Year.

Your friend,



Lisa B. Nelson  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Legislative Exchange Council

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- [Protecting parental rights](#)
- [Improving rights for foster children](#)
- [Emphasizing the importance of a balanced budget in government](#)
- And many more!

The solutions we developed together set the agenda for a productive 2022— and there's a lot of work to do. Our workshops saw robust discussions on national and local education, the current supply chain crisis with hands on learning opportunities at a tour of the Port of Los Angeles, welfare reform, content moderation, the housing crisis, collective bargaining/union reform and proactive measures that can help counter anti-Semitism and criminal activities targeting the Jewish community.

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### Making a List and Checking it Twice: CIED's 2022 Policy Wish List

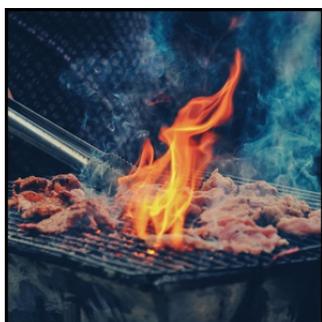
With Christmas only a few days away, it's time for expedited shipping, extra eggnog, and those final touches to your Christmas decorations. It's also the perfect time for the Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development Task Force's 2022 policy wish list.

When it comes to business and labor issues, supply chains and regulatory reform, here's a list of the policies we're hoping to get for Christmas. To read our list, check out our blog post below!

[Read](#)



### California Referendums Reshaping Agriculture Throughout the Nation



While Californians are waking up New Year's Day to find the majority of pork products banned in their state, the country's agriculture industry will be scrambling to adhere to arbitrary requirements pushed by anti-meat activists.

In a new blog post, ALEC looks into California's Farm Animal Confinement Proposition and the toll it would take on the pork industry—both in the state and across the county. With less than five percent of California's pork producers prepared to comply, the price tag of the new policy will be a steep one.

[Read](#)



### In the News: Tax Cuts Didn't Lay the Federal Debt Trap



ALEC's Chief economist, Jonathan Williams and Policy Analyst Nick Stark were recently featured in an op-ed published by the National Review.

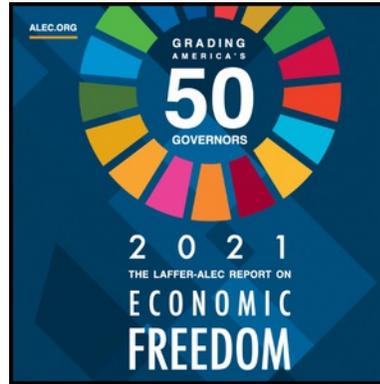
"Tax cuts are not the reason for the debt trap. Irresponsible spending growth has created the problem, and unfortunately, the political drama surrounding the federal debt ceiling will continue until Congress can learn to pass responsible budgets." To read their article and its evaluation of our country's debt problem, click below!

[Read](#)



## 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom, Grading America's Governors

If you're looking at each state through a lens that prioritizes free markets, limited government and federalism, who are America's top governors? ALEC's most recent publication—*The 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom: Grading America's 50 Governors*—provides an answer to just such a question. The report ranks each governor on their current economic performance and their fiscal and executive policies over their term in office. Check out the report below!



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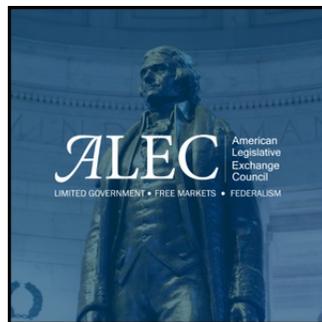


**A** Happy New Year from your friends at the American Legislative Exchange Council!



Happy new year from the team at the American Legislative Exchange Council! ALEC has had an extraordinary year in 2021 and hopes to continue excelling in 2022 by starting the year off strong. In the coming months ALEC is planning on hosting events in Virginia, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi and Missouri. If you have questions about these events, [email our membership engagement team.](#)

**A** Renew Your Membership for a New Year



Thank you to the 2021 public and private sector members that joined us this past year in advocating for the principles ALEC stands for. As we enter a new year, we encourage you to extend that partnership by reviewing or renewing your membership with us. With your help, we will continue to advocate for limited government, free markets and federalism in 2022.

[Click Here](#)

**A** ALEC Partners with Run GenZ in Upcoming Event



Later this week ALEC will be partnering with Run GenZ at their winter meeting in Dallas. Click below to watch an ALEC TV interview with Caleb Hanna—a member of ALEC, Run GenZ co-founder, and the youngest state rep in WV's legislature.

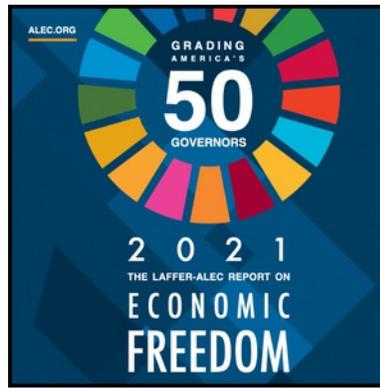
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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

Keep an eye on ALEC events that may be coming to your state! In the coming months ALEC is planning on hosting events in Virginia, Georgia, Kansas, Mississippi and Missouri. If you have questions about these events, [email our membership engagement team](#).

**A** **Mark Your Calendar for the 2022 ALEC Annual Meeting**



The 2022 ALEC Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia will take place from July 27-28. If you're a legislator or a private stakeholder who cares about the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism, this event is for you. Stay tuned as we get closer to the event and, in the meantime, email our events team with any questions.

[Click Here](#)

**A** **ALEC Partners with Run GenZ**



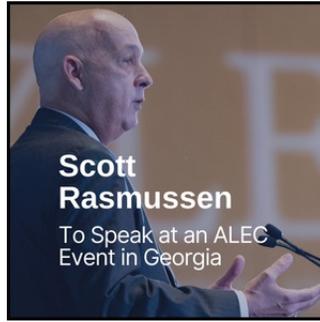
Last week ALEC partnered with Run GenZ at their winter meeting in Dallas. Run GenZ dedicates itself to encouraging members of the next generation to enter positions of leadership in government.

Click below to watch an ALEC TV interview with Caleb Hanna—a member of ALEC, Run GenZ co-founder, and the youngest state rep in WV's legislature.

[Click Here](#)



### ALEC is Coming to Georgia Later this Month



#### Scott Rasmussen

To Speak at an ALEC Event in Georgia

ALEC is kicking off the year with a meeting in Atlanta for public and private sector members. Scott Rasmussen, one of the country's leading public opinion pollsters, will address meeting attendees.

Having participated at ALEC's States and Nation Policy Summit this past year, Rasmussen brings unique perspective on the topics of public opinion, effective government communication and an understanding of today's political climate. Click below to watch his address from our summit in San Diego!

[Click Here](#)



### Across the States: A look at America's Foster Care System



#### New Episode of Across the States

The Premiere State Policy Podcast by ALEC

America's foster care system is in need of reform to protect children and give them a chance to grow up in a stable environment.

On this week's episode of Across the States, we sit down with Senator Nancy Barto of Arizona and Rebecca Masterson, Chief Counsel of Gen Justice, to discuss policies that will empower law enforcement and our foster care system to protect America's youth.

[Click Here](#)



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This Week at ALEC

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It's been a busy week for the team at ALEC. Across the States released a new podcast episode, our policy teams are preparing to travel, and the Supreme Court handed down their decision on the OSHA vaccine mandates. Scroll below to read more on these topics!

 **A Matter of Federalism:  
Deciding Who Decides**



In a crisis where the Federal Government has largely overlooked federalism as an answer to a path forward, the Supreme Court rightly decided to put the choice of vaccine mandates back in the hands of local authorities.

Read more about ALEC's stance on the Supreme Court's decision on the OSHA vaccine mandate.

[Click Here](#)

 **Twitter, Free Speech and  
Federal Boundaries**



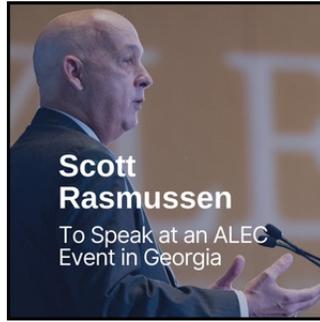
Content moderation on social media has sparked vigorous debate over freedom of speech in online forums. From the permanent suspension of Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene's personal Twitter account to the Heroes of Liberty controversy at Facebook, the intersection of the 1st Amendment and the internet are only growing in importance.

Matthew Fisher sits down with Jonathon Hauenschild, Director of the ALEC Communications and Technology Task Force to discuss Twitter, Facebook, and other social media giants while exploring ways lawmakers can get involved.

[Click Here](#)



### ALEC is Coming to Georgia Later this Month



**Scott Rasmussen**  
To Speak at an ALEC Event in Georgia

ALEC is kicking off the year with a meeting in Atlanta for public and private sector members, taking place on January 24th through 26th. Scott Rasmussen, one of the country's leading public opinion pollsters, will address meeting attendees along with ALEC CEO and President, Lisa Nelson.

[Contact our membership team to learn how you can get involved.](#)

Having participated at ALEC's States and Nation Policy Summit this past year, Rasmussen brings unique perspective on the topics of public opinion, effective government communication and an understanding of today's political climate. Click below to watch his address from our summit in San Diego!

[Click Here](#)



### Human Services Blog Post: Missing Foster Children



Every year, 20,000 children go missing from foster care. America's foster care system is in need of reform to protect children and give them a chance to grow up in a stable environment.

Read ALEC's recent blog post on common-sense model policy designed to confront the problem.

[Click Here](#)



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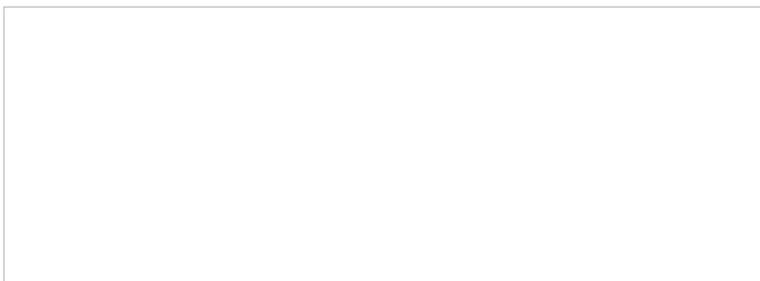
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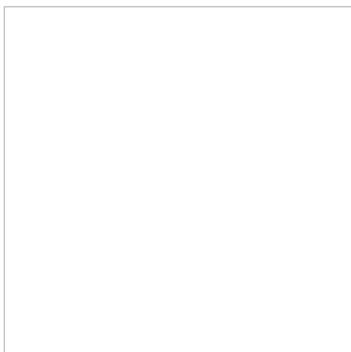
The ALEC policy team invites you to join us tomorrow, Friday, January 28 at 2pm EST as Deputy Chief of Staff for Arizona Governor Ducey, Katie Rattief, economist Stephen Moore and Oklahoma Secretary of Education Ryan Walters discuss how America's governors are putting parents back in charge of their children's education.

ALEC's Jonathan Williams and Lee Schalk will join the conversation, which will cover how governors are keeping schools open, avoiding mask mandates for kids, and providing school choice options – despite pushback from the federal government.

**To join the discussion for this Policy Hour, RSVP below!**

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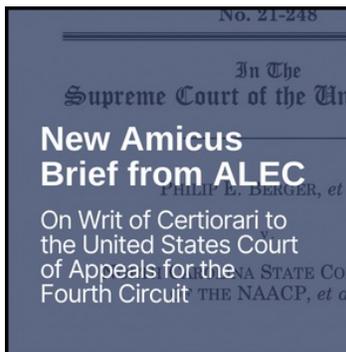
 **ALEC's Visit to Georgia This Past Week**



ALEC traveled to Georgia alongside pollster Scott Rasmussen to meet with state legislators and partners to discuss a number of pressing issues including election reform.

These topics have been key issues in the past year for the state of Georgia and will continue to be hot-button issues heading into the upcoming midterm elections—not just for Georgia, but for the whole country. We look forward to continuing our support for legislators on these crucial topics.

 **Berger v. North Carolina Conference of the NAACP**



This past week, the ALEC informed the U.S. Supreme Court in an [amicus brief](#) filed in *Berger v. North Carolina State Conference of the NAACP* that state legislatures should have the ability to defend the constitutionality of state laws in court. The Supreme Court is currently deciding whether to take the case. View the brief below!

[Read](#)

Writing in National Review, ALEC EVP of Policy and Chief Economist Jonathan Williams explains Utah's 14-year streak of being ranked number one in [Rich States, Poor States](#).

Incredibly, in each edition of our study, Utah has earned the top economic outlook ranking. These rankings are far more than theoretical. The state-by-state unemployment rates showcase a stark difference in policy landscapes and effectiveness in managing the past two years of pandemic responses. Read the op-ed below!

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Dear Friends,

We're rolling up our sleeves and already seeing success in the new year. We hope that you'll join us in our efforts as we start the year off strong. Together, we will continue to advocate for the principles of limited government, free markets and state-based solutions. This year, we want to thank Senate President Karen Fann from the state of Arizona for working with us as ALEC's 2022 National Chairman. We are grateful for her leadership!

This past month we were excited to travel to Richmond and welcome Governor Glenn Youngkin into office following a historic election in Virginia. The ALEC team was also able to speak with Lt. Governor Winsome Sears, Secretary of Education Aimee Rogstad Guidera, Speaker of the House of Delegates Todd Gilbert, and several other members of the Virginia House of Delegates—all friends of ALEC. This past election signifies a clear shift in priorities in Virginia, including a new focus on education and empowering parents.

There has already been one major win for federalism in the new year as the Supreme Court has ruled in favor of preventing OSHA's COVID-19 vaccine requirement from applying to businesses with more than 100 employees. At ALEC, we believe that individual states and local authorities are often best suited to look after their community workplaces. As Supreme Court Justice Gorsuch noted, the question at the heart of the deliberation was one of "who decides?" ALEC's statement explains why the court's decision was a tremendous victory for proponents of federalism. [You can read it here.](#)

Keeping with the theme of federalism and preserving state autonomy, [we filed an amicus brief](#) with the US Supreme Court in *Berger v. North Carolina State Conference of the NAAC*, supporting the ability of state legislatures to intervene to defend the constitutionality of state laws in court.

Our task forces continued to move forward on finding solutions to real and present needs across our country. Together, [we developed ALEC model policy that has been utilized to fight the crisis of missing children in the American foster care system.](#) The Health and Human Services Committee directly informed the efforts of legislators in Arizona to adopt common-sense proposals that would protect children against kidnapping and human trafficking. Human trafficking is a terrible practice—one that ALEC is wholeheartedly committed to fighting. At this year's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, we will continue addressing how good policy at the state level can be used to counter and prevent the tremendous harm inflicted on the victims of human trafficking. We commend the efforts like minded state legislators who contribute to addressing the issue.

Speaking of our annual meeting, we traveled to Georgia with pollster Scott Rasmussen to meet with state legislators and partners to discuss pressing issues including education, election integrity, and mental health. These topics have been key issues in the past year and will continue to be hot-button issues heading into the upcoming midterm elections. We look forward to continuing our support for legislators of Georgia on these crucial topics.

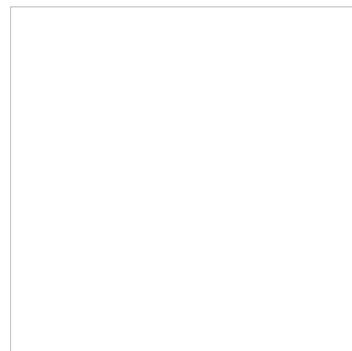
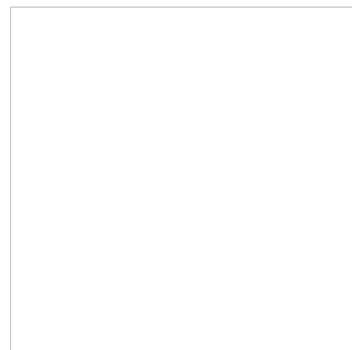
We are delighted to offer enhanced virtual programming by partnering with panelists and presenters through online mediums. We were honored to have Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich recently join a policy call with ALEC and a number of state leaders. Speaker Gingrich, a political visionary and conservative figurehead, has long advocated for the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism. We also heard from Steve Moore and from Governor Stitt's Office from Oklahoma as well as Deputy Chief of Staff for Arizona Governor Ducey, Katie Rattlief. Keep an eye out for upcoming ALEC events, Policy Hours, and workshops featuring similar speakers in the coming weeks!

I'm grateful that you have partnered with ALEC. Our team works around the clock to educate decision makers on good policy. But policy, on its own, will never make its way off the page. We depend on active difference-makers who work earnestly at the state level to implement positive change. This year provides us with a unique opportunity to use state and local control to show the country an effective alternative to federal centralization. Thanks for making a difference with us.

Your Friend,

Lisa B. Nelson

Chief Executive Officer, American Legislative Exchange Council





Lisa B. Nelson  
Chief Executive Officer  
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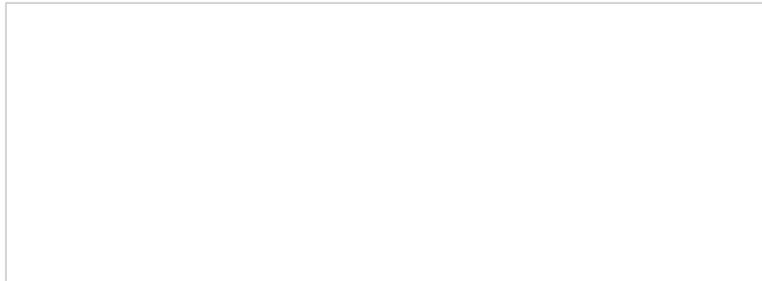
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This Week at ALEC

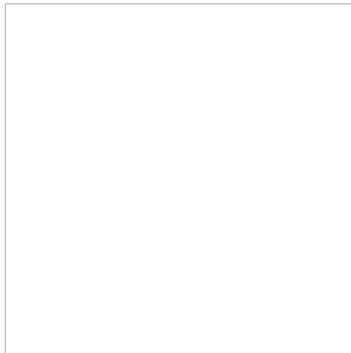
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Here's what ALEC has been up to this past week. Our team continued to engage with some of the nation's most pressing topics through our podcast, we've released a pair of new blog posts and we held a policy hour which you can watch below! Read below to learn more on each of these topics.



**ACROSS THE STATES**



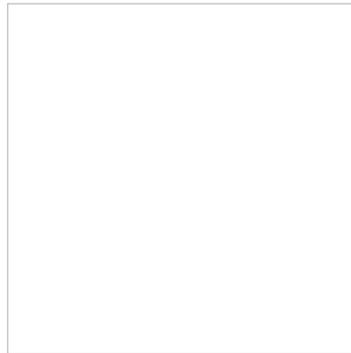
In Loudoun County, Virginia, the struggle for parents rights in education has captured the public's attention.

On today's episode of Across the States, we sit down with John Whitbeck, partner at WhitbeckBennet Family Law Firm and parental rights advocate, Bill Ashworth, ALEC Vice President of Public Affairs and Engagement, and Andrew Handel, Director of the ALEC Taskforce for Education and Workforce Development. On this episode, they discuss the situation in Loudoun County, its impact on the 2021 election, Governor Glenn Younkin's recent executive orders, the path forward and solutions.

[Listen](#)



**EDUCATION**



National School Choice Week has brought together students, parents, and educators to collectively recognize the importance of educational freedom and parental choice.

This past year, those concepts have been thrown into the national spotlight. Our recent blog post highlights just how significant parental involvement has become to American voters and lawmakers alike.

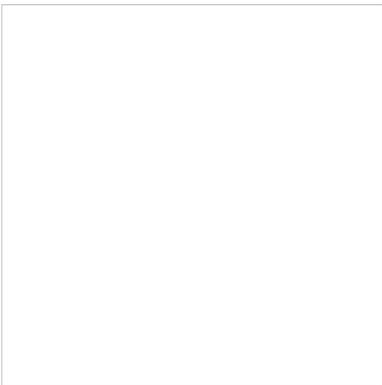
[Read](#)



### ALEC POLICY HOUR

Last week, economist Stephen Moore and Katie Rattief, the Deputy Chief of Staff for Arizona Governor Doug Ducey, joined an ALEC Policy Hour to discuss the ways in which America's governors are putting parents back in charge of their children's education.

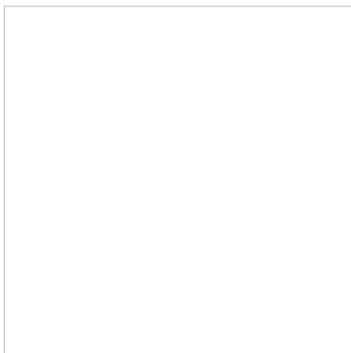
ALEC's Jonathan Williams and Lee Schalk also joined the conversation, covering Gov. Ducey's efforts to utilize federal funds to keep schools open, avoid mask mandates for kids, and provide vouchers for low-income students – despite pushback from the federal government.



[Watch](#)



### REGULATORY REFORM



What exactly qualifies as a federally regulated waterway?

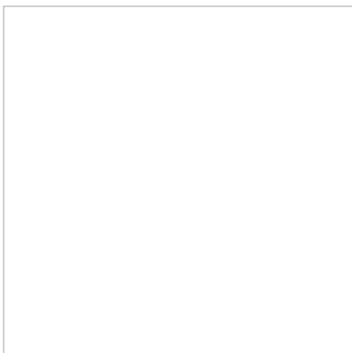
That's the question surrounding the non-stop regulatory nightmare facing many property owners and developers who happen to have water running through their land.

The U.S. Supreme Court is granting review of a case challenging the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) interpretation of the Clean Water Rule. Here's why that's an important matter of federalism.

[Read](#)



### ANNUAL MEETING



The 2022 ALEC Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia will take place from July 27th through the 29th. If you're a legislator or a private stakeholder who cares about the principles of limited government, free markets and federalism, this event is for you. Stay tuned as we get closer to the event and, in the meantime, email our events team with any questions.

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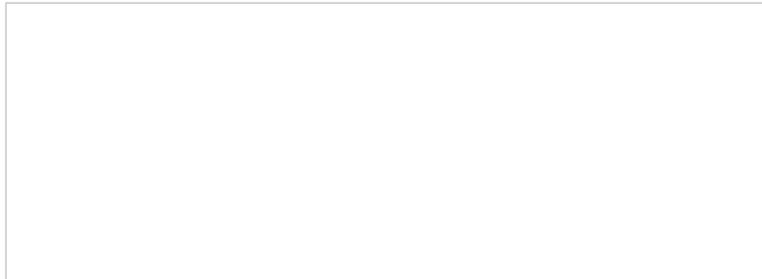
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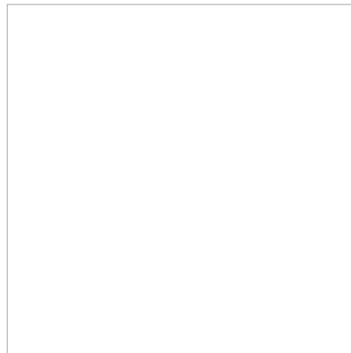
This Week at ALEC

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During the past week, our team testified in Pennsylvania on the issue of donor disclosure. We published an article on the Virginia Supreme Court's decision regarding Governor Youngkin's executive orders and released a post on our policy proposals for 2022. ALEC also filed public comments and issued a press release on the EPA's WOTUS Rule. Be sure to register for our upcoming policy hour on the conflict in Ukraine. To read more about these topics, scroll below!

 **EDUCATION IN VIRGINIA**

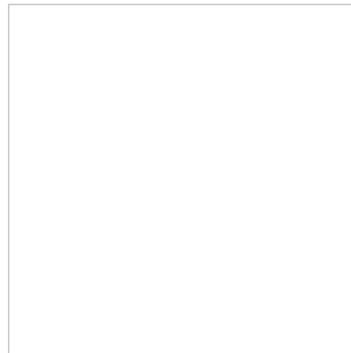


On his first day in office, Governor Glenn Youngkin issued executive order to put school choice and children's safety in the hands of Virginia's parents. But just as quickly, Youngkin began to face pushback and his administration quickly found itself in court.

Read below about the Virginia Supreme Court decision.

[Read](#)

 **DONOR DISCLOSURE**



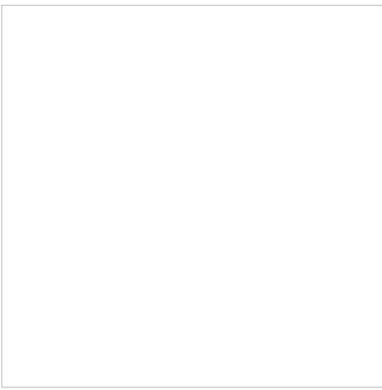
ALEC recently testified on the difference between donor disclosure and campaign finance. As part of the testimony, we had the opportunity to explain how improper disclosure can chill speech and public participation. View the testimony below!

[Watch](#)

 **POLICY HOUR ON UKRAINE**

Join us for a very important ALEC Policy Hour with ALEC Alumna Indiana Congresswoman Victoria Spartz on ***Russia's Threat to Ukraine – Implications for US National Security and Global Democracy*** on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 1pm EST.**

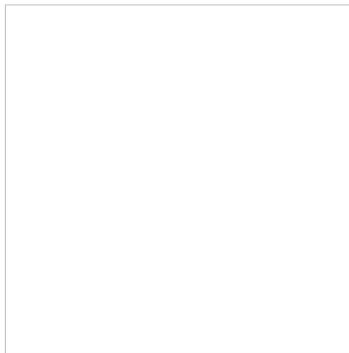
Congresswoman Spartz grew up in Ukraine before emigrating to the United States where she became a US citizen and later an Indiana State Legislator. She was sworn in as a member of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress in 2021 and recently participated in a Congressional Delegation that met with Ukraine's President Zelenskyy.



[Register Here](#)



NEWS RELEASE

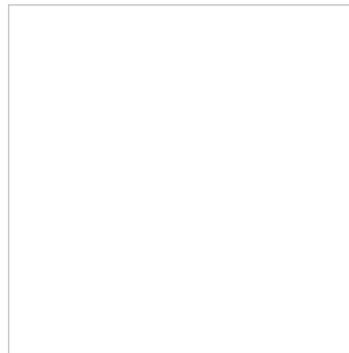


ALEC recently [filed public comments with the Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#) asking the agency to withdraw its proposed "Waters of the United States" rulemaking. If adopted, the proposed rule would allow federal regulators to supersede state and local authority over land and waters delegated to their jurisdiction in the Clean Water Act. Read the press release below.

[Read](#)



POLICY PRIORITIES



Throughout our nearly 50 year history, ALEC has always been at the forefront of producing and exchanging ideas and will continue to provide principled solutions that benefit all Americans.

Our entire policy team at ALEC has hit the ground running in 2022, analyzing the best free-market ideas to add to the important discussions taking place across the states and at the federal level in Washington. Read about some of our top priorities this coming year by following the link below!

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ALEC Policy Hour

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Join us for a very special ALEC Policy Hour on ***Russia's Threat to Ukraine – Implications for US National Security and Global Democracy*** on **Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 1pm EST** beginning with a conversation between **ALEC Alumna Indiana Congresswoman Victoria Spartz** and **ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson**. Ukrainian-born, Congresswoman Spartz recently participated in a Congressional Delegation that met with Ukraine's President Zelenskyy.

Immediately following, Karla Jones, ALEC's Sr. Director of Federalism & International Relations, will moderate a group of experts from both sides of the Atlantic including Alan Mendoza (Founder and Executive Director of the UK's Henry Jackson Society), Damon Wilson (President & CEO, National Endowment for Democracy), Chris Holzen (Sr. Advisor for Europe and Eurasia at the International Republican Institute) and representatives from the diplomatic community, who will discuss the rapidly evolving crisis.

Today [The Hill published this op-ed about the Ukraine situation authored by ALEC's Karla Jones.](#)

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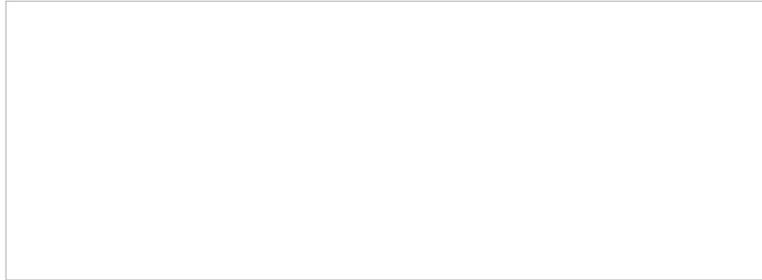
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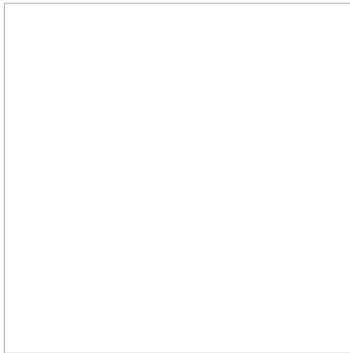
Events and Education, February 2022

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Here are the new and notable items from the American Legislative Exchange Council this week. ALEC went on the road, discussing key budget practices with the Texas Public Policy Foundation. In an op-ed, the Senior Director of ALEC's HHS Task Force wrote about the fallout of California's labor policies. We celebrate Black History Month and invite you to join us in an upcoming ALEC Working Group. Read more about all these topics below!

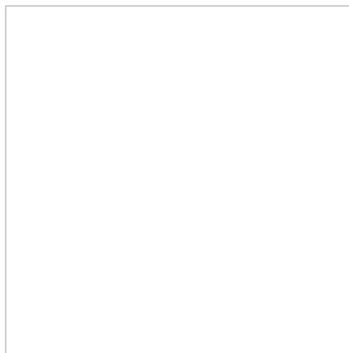
 **ON THE ROAD**



Last week, ALEC's Jonathan Williams joined a panel discussion on smart budgeting principles hosted by the Texas Public Policy Foundation. The discussion focused on the surpluses some states are facing in the wake of the American Rescue Plan Act and how state legislators can navigate those surpluses to provide tax cuts.

[Watch](#)

 **POLICY BLOGPOST**

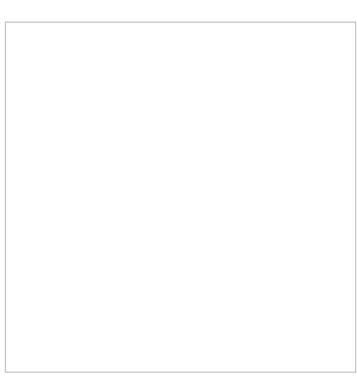


In a new op-ed for *The Orange County Register*, the Senior Director of ALEC's HHS Task Force joined co-author Jon Coupal of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association to analyze California's radical new health care proposals.

[Read](#)

 **POLICY**

 **UPCOMING WORKING GROUP**



Join us for ALEC's first Cannabis Reform Working Group virtual meeting of 2022. This working group, newly chaired by Michigan State Representative Graham Filler, will take place on Thursday, February 24th at 3:00PM EST. From state taxes to criminal justice issues, this virtual meeting will have leading experts outline and weigh in on the far-reaching effects of modern-day prohibition.

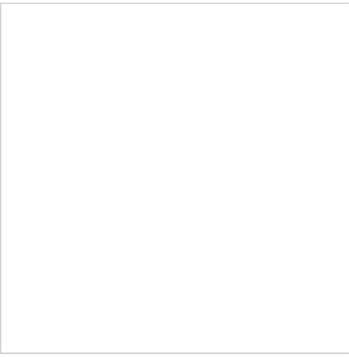
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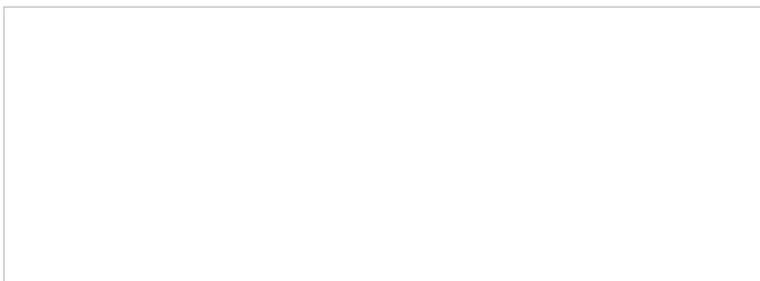
At ALEC, we are committed to providing policy solutions for all Americans. We take pride in working side-by-side with state legislators from all walks of life, helping them identify best practices that lead to growth and opportunity. Click below to read about some ways in which we do just that.

[Read](#)

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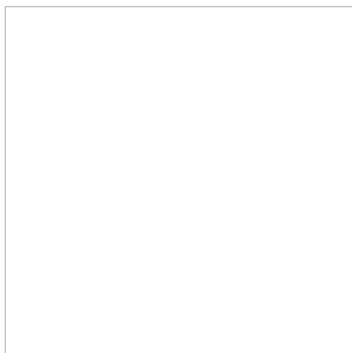
This Week at ALEC

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This past week at ALEC, our leadership traveled to Louisiana to work with state legislators to discuss the state's economic trajectory. We published a blog post on the size of the federal debt and hosted a Policy Hour on the conflict in Ukraine. Finally, we've released a new episode of Across the States, examining what state governments can do to address change in the American healthcare system. Read about all these topics below!

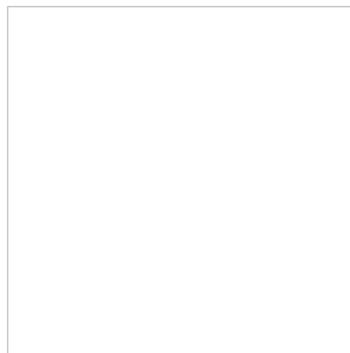
 **ON THE ROAD**



Louisiana's State Chairs, Rep. Mark Wright and Rep. Ray Garofalo, welcomed ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson and Executive Vice President of Policy Jonathan Williams to the capitol this past week to meet with legislators and to discuss Louisiana's promising economic outlook.

It's always a pleasure to work alongside dedicate public servants like the ones in Louisiana. Be sure to keep an eye out for upcoming ALEC events in states near you!

 **ACROSS THE STATES**



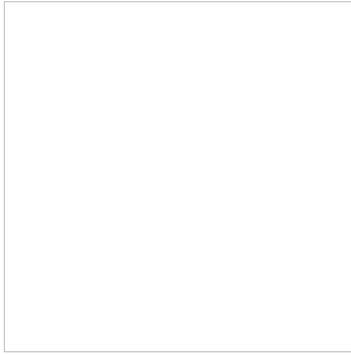
The debate over healthcare policy is usually spoken about in terms of finding a solution at the federal level. But the reality is that state lawmakers possess significant power and ability to bring about positive reforms for their constituents.

Join us as Matthew Fisher sits down with Brian Blase, founder of the Paragon Health Institute, Naomi Lopez, Director of Healthcare Policy at the Goldwater Institute, and Matt Mitchell, Senior Research Fellow and Director of the Equal Liberty Initiative at Mercatus Center, to discuss their publication "Don't Wait for Washington: How States Can Reform Health Care Today."

[Listen](#)



POLICY BLOG POST



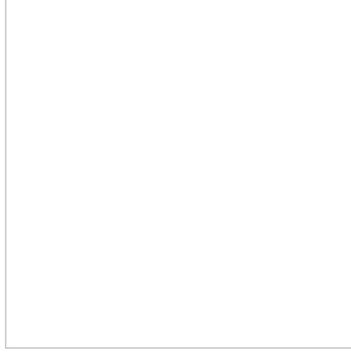
The [U.S. debt](#) has just surpassed \$30 trillion, and most of America hardly batted an eye. When large numbers like [\\$1 trillion here](#) and [\\$3 trillion dollars there](#) are thrown around so often by federal leaders, it's hard not to become desensitized.

So what exactly does \$30 trillion look like? How can we put that number into perspective? Read our latest blog post from the ALEC policy team, examining what that number looks like in practice.

[Read](#)



POLICY HOUR



This past week, ALEC hosted a Policy Hour on the conflict of Ukraine. If you happened to miss that event or would like to re-watch a segment you found informative, you can watch the recording below!

[Watch](#)

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This Week at ALEC

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Our Policy Team has released two new blog posts, ALEC published an op-ed with the Orange County Register, there's a new Across the States Episode, and our team is making an appearance at CPAC. Read more on all of these topics below! Don't forget to register for our upcoming Working Group by following the link provided.

 ON THE ROAD



This week, ALEC will travel to Orlando, FL to attend CPAC. If you're attending CPAC, we would be thrilled to see you, so please bring a friend and stop by our booth to say hello!

ALEC is also a sponsor of the [State Lawmaker Award Reception](#) on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup>. To connect with our team, contact Aaron Gillham ([agillham@alec.org](mailto:agillham@alec.org)) or Gabriella Uli ([guli@alec.org](mailto:guli@alec.org)).

 VIRTUAL WORKING GROUP



Join us during our Cannabis Working Group's first virtual meeting of the year. This working group, chaired by Michigan State Representative Graham Filler, will take place on Thursday, February 24th at 3:00PM EST. In 2022 and beyond, we will host discussions with leading policy experts on how tax structures, criminal justice systems, commerce and the medical industry are affected by the shifting policy landscape across the states.

[Click Here](#)



In our new op-ed for the Orange County Register, we discuss the recent situation in San Bernardino County, where over \$1 million has been seized from state-licensed cannabis dispensaries since November. We explain how dealing in crypto rather than cash could help these businesses avoid similar scenarios in the future.

Read



"SoFi Stadium in Southern California hosted Super Bowl LVI this year. Not only is the most expensive NFL stadium ever built, costing nearly \$5 billion, SoFi stadium was also entirely privately funded. That means California taxpayers, who face some of the largest tax burdens in the country, didn't pay a dime..."

Continue reading by following the link below!

Read



School choice has become a national movement in statehouses across America.

To learn more about this innovative policy of empowerment, join Matthew Fisher as he sits down with Jason Bedrick, Director of Policy, Michael McShane, Director of National Research at EdChoice and Andrew Handel, Director of the Education and Workforce Development.

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This Week at ALEC

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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

ALEC's Jonathan Williams went on NTD News this past week to talk about the strength of municipal finance in the face of inflation. A recent Policy Hour recording sheds light on how the tensions of yesterday resulted in the Eastern European conflict of today. There's a new episode of Across the States, and ALEC published a recent blog post on supporting at-home workers. Read about all these topics below!

## IN THE NEWS



**Jonathan Williams Joins NTD News**

ALEC's Chief Economist Goes Live to Discuss the Resilience of State Governments

Jonathan Williams recently went on NTD News to discuss rising interest rates which will be implemented by the Federal Reserve in the coming year and what that will mean at the local level. With inflation rising, Jonathan explains that state legislatures will feel the pressure but remain strong.

[Watch](#)

## POLICY HOUR RECORDING



**ALEC Policy Hour Recording**

A Recording of a Discussion on the International Relations that Led to the Russian Invasion

Russia has invaded Ukraine. Leading up to what the White House called, "a clear act of aggression," Russia has made it clear that absorbing Ukraine has been a longstanding national objective. Watch a recent ALEC Policy Hour recording on the situation that brought Eastern Europe to where it is now, featuring Ukrainian-born, ALEC Alumna Indiana Congresswoman Victoria Spartz and others.

(Passcode: mB#S0R3)

[Watch](#)



### Lifting Restrictions on Home-Based Businesses

COVID-19 Demonstrates a Need for States to Protect Growing Home Workplaces

Millions of Americans used side hustles and gigs to make ends meet during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Now, more than 50% of American businesses operate from residential dwellings, and an unprecedented 200 million Americans work from home. These businesses need the help of legislators to accommodate their growing sector of the workforce. Read below to find out some ways in which states can do just that.

Read



### New Episode of Across the States

School Choice with EdChoice: Interview with Jason Bedrick & Michael McShane

School choice has become a national movement in statehouses across America. To learn more about this innovative policy of empowerment, join Matthew Fisher as he sits down with Jason Bedrick, Director of Policy at EdChoice, Michael McShane, Director of National Research at EdChoice, and Andrew Handel, Director of the Education and Workforce Development at ALEC.

Listen

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**Subject:** CEO Update: ALEC's Policy Priorities in 2022



Dear Friends,

ALEC has a unique opportunity in 2022 to remind Americans in all fifty states of something that they already know—something that has recently become crystal clear: federal centralization is not the answer to all our problems.

We've always been proponents of local authority and its ability to further the common good. Many leaders in America have turned their backs on state-based solutions and instead put their trust in the federal government and top-down answers. But right now, as the country continues healing from the effects of COVID-19, Americans are increasingly rejecting those sentiments. Parents are voting for candidates who protect their rights [in determining their children's education](#). Americans are [voting with their feet](#) by moving to states with policies that prioritize educational and economic freedom.



These elements present us with an opportunity. We at ALEC hope to demonstrate that there is a better path forward. Our entire policy team at ALEC has hit the ground running in 2022, analyzing the best free-market ideas to add to the important discussions taking place across the states as well as at the federal level in Washington. [Our 2022 Essential Policy Ideas](#) highlight some ways in which together we can do just that.

There's work to be done! Criminal justice reform, border security, protecting our constitutional right of free speech, freedom of association, individual liberty, protecting our environment while promoting American energy independence, strengthening the US-Taiwan economic partnership and academic transparency are all just a few of the areas ALEC hopes to address in 2022. All ten of our task forces and ACCE each have their respective priorities and objectives in the coming year. [You can read about them in detail here.](#)

Through January and now into February, we've already started working towards many of these goals. Earlier this month, [we testified in Pennsylvania](#) on the difference between public campaign finance and donor privacy and went on the road to Pennsylvania, Iowa, Florida and Louisiana (just to name a few). If you are ever interested in having our team visit your state, please let us know – we are just a phone call away.

Additionally, we're staying close to the ground by covering topics of national interest like bringing you the latest on [the fight for parental authority](#) in Virginia. And through our outlets like [our podcast](#), we've covered what state legislatures can do to make a difference in [how healthcare works in their states](#).

Be sure to keep an eye on our blog and other ALEC outlets as we continue to press forward on our policy priorities for this year.

We want to make sure that, as a partner of ALEC, you're aware of what we plan to do in 2022. If you have any questions about our listed priorities, don't hesitate to reach out. We would be more than happy to answer any questions you might have. In addition, we want to hear your priorities! Part of what makes ALEC such a powerful round-table source of solutions is the partnership we have with so many difference-makers across the country. Through our unique combination of creating a space for state legislatures, private sector leaders, and Federal representatives, ALEC hopes to continue creating the kind of cooperation it has made possible for the past 50 years.

Your Friend,

Lisa B. Nelson

Chief Executive Officer, American Legislative Exchange Council



Lisa B. Nelson  
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Events and Education, March 2022

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ALEC's Policy Team has published two new blog posts—one on the chilling effect of donor disclosure and the other on the unintended consequences stemming from the 340B Program on prescription drugs. This week ALEC will also be traveling to Virginia to meet with state leadership, and released a statement on the conflict in Ukraine. Read more about these topics below!

 **ON THE ROAD**



ALEC's Policy Team will be hosting a reception with NFIB-Virginia, and the Virginia Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors to discuss issues impacting Virginia businesses.

Be sure to keep an eye out for similar ALEC events in a state near you.

 **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

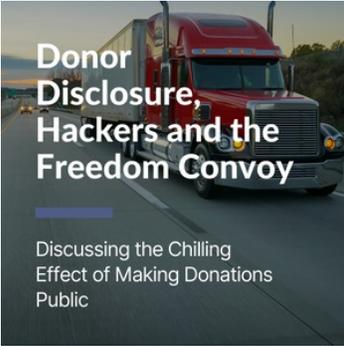


Read below to learn about ALEC's position on the conflict in Eastern Europe. Here's why we stand opposed to Putin's aggression and his attack on national autonomy.

[Read](#)

 **FREE SPEECH**

 **PRESCRIPTION DRUGS**



## Donor Disclosure, Hackers and the Freedom Convoy

Discussing the Chilling Effect of Making Donations Public

Donor disclosure places a chilling effect on contributions that might go towards creating legitimate public discourse. Read our post below where we take a closer look at how this situation played out with the Freedom Convoy incident in the past month.

[Read](#)



## The Controversy Surrounding the 340B Program

Discussing Prescription Drug Pricing and the Impact of the 340B Program

Under section 340(B) of the Public Health Service Act, participating drug manufacturers agree to provide a discount to eligible hospitals and other “covered entities” who serve low-income individuals not covered by Medicare and Medicaid. Learn more about the unintended consequences section 340(B) has caused by reading below.

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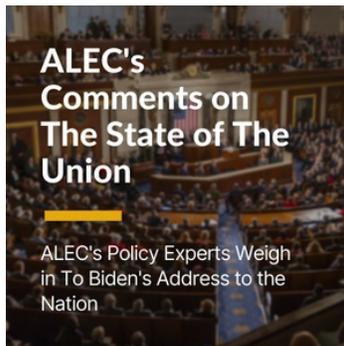


# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

President Biden recently addressed the nation at his first State of the Union, and the ALEC policy team offered their reactions and insights to the President's address. You can read their responses below. ALEC went on the road again this past week, meeting with state leaders in Richmond, Virginia and will be visiting the state of Kansas in the near future. Keep an eye out for our Annual Meeting registration which opens next week. To read more about all these topics, scroll below!

 **STATE OF THE UNION**



## ALEC's Comments on The State of The Union

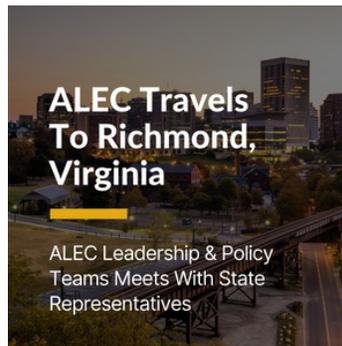
ALEC's Policy Experts Weigh in To Biden's Address to the Nation

As we watched President Joe Biden's State of the Union address this week, one thing was abundantly clear: in many instances, the President leaned on a top-down, big government approach to many of the issues facing America today. But will those ideas work to the betterment of Americans?

Read the responses of our task force directors to the policy ideas presented in the State of the Union.

[Read](#)

 **ON THE ROAD**



## ALEC Travels To Richmond, Virginia

ALEC Leadership & Policy Teams Meets With State Representatives

ALEC's Policy Team hosted a reception with NFIB-Virginia, and the Virginia Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors on Thursday to discuss issues impacting Virginia businesses.

ALEC always hopes to work alongside individuals who are vested in the wellbeing of their state. Be sure to keep an eye out for similar ALEC events in a state near you!

 **ON THE ROAD**



ALEC's will travel to Kansas alongside Ned Ryun, the CEO and founder of American Majority, who will address audiences as a guest speaker. To learn more about this event, please reach out to our membership team by hitting the button below.

Email



Registration for ALEC's 49th Annual Meeting opens on Wednesday, March 9th. The Annual Meeting will take place in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27-29 and is one of the nation's largest collaborative examinations of state policy. Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state level solutions to those issues.

This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the pressing problems facing our nation.

For more information on the event, visit the page below!

Click Here

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**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <lbriceno@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 3/8/2022 5:16:47 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Events and Education

Events and Education, March 2022

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ALEC recently attended CPAC, connecting with conservative thought-leaders and listening to the concerns of state representatives from all across the country. Our CIED Task Force hosted a webinar for legislative staff on fostering economic growth, and Jonathan Williams gave his perspective on Nebraska's increased state revenue. ALEC will be on the road again shortly, visiting the state of Kansas alongside guest speaker Ned Ryn. For more on all these topics, read below!

 **ALEC AT CPAC**



Members of the ALEC team traveled to CPAC in Florida to meet with attendees, interact with state legislators and keep up to date on the direction of the conservative movement.

While at CPAC, Nino Marchese, the task force director for ALEC's Criminal Justice Task Force, sat down with former New York City police officer Rob O'Donnell to talk about criminal justice reform and law enforcement best practices. Click below to listen!



Thank you to the attendees from all walks

 **WEBINAR RECORDING**



ALEC recently hosted a webinar for legislative and committee staff on how to best encourage entrepreneurial growth in their states. The event, hosted by the Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development Task Force, can be viewed below!

[Watch](#)

 **ON THE ROAD**

of life who met with our team members while at CPAC!

Listen



This past week, ALEC's Jonathan Williams provided public comment for *Center Square Nebraska* on new reports that Nebraska is seeing a \$370 million revenue boost. The revenue boost, Williams explains, is great news for Nebraskans—not only because the state is seeing the numbers heading in the right direction, but also because it opens the door to provide potential tax relief.

Read

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## ALEC Coming to Kansas

ALEC's Policy Teams Will Travel to Kansas Alongside Guest Speaker Ned Ryun

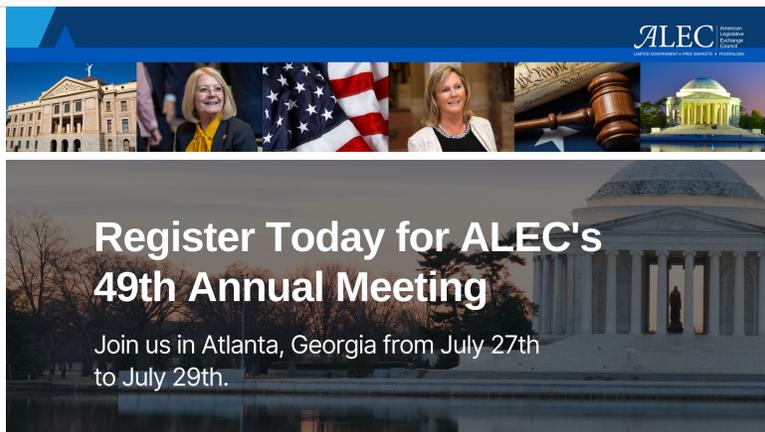
ALEC will travel to Kansas alongside Ned Ryun, the CEO and founder of American Majority, who will address audiences as a guest speaker. To learn more about this event, please reach out to our membership team by hitting the button below.

Email

**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <lbriceno@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 3/9/2022 2:38:23 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Registration NOW OPEN for the 49th ALEC Annual Meeting

[Register for ALEC's 49th Annual Meeting](#)

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## Registration is now OPEN for the 49th ALEC Annual Meeting!

Join us as we come together in person for the 49th ALEC Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia from July 27 – 29! The ALEC Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to interact with state legislators, elected officials and stakeholders to discuss the future of America, as we strive to increase transparency in education, address the impending energy issues and seek solutions to solve the economic crisis. There is no better place to explore crucial policy solutions than the ALEC Annual Meeting.



Register Now!

[Click Here](#)



We have an exciting line-up of speakers that will make this a can't miss event. Dr. Alveda King who serves as the Chair of the Center for the American Dream at the America First Policy Institute will be joining us.

She is the daughter of the late slain civil rights activist Rev. A.D. King and the niece of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She has served the Georgia State House of Representatives, is a former presidential appointee, and a 2021

recipient of the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award. Her work and dedication to education reform and underserved communities proudly continues her family legacy.

## Important Dates and Information



Registration opens **TODAY, March 9, 2022**  
Standard rates will begin **June 2, 2022**  
On-site rates will begin on **June 30, 2022**

**Host Hotel:**

The 49<sup>th</sup> ALEC Annual Meeting will take place at The Hilton Atlanta Downtown Hotel. To book a room in the ALEC housing block, please register for the 49<sup>th</sup> ALEC Annual Meeting. A link to book a hotel room will be included in your registration confirmation email.

### Interested in sponsoring or exhibiting?

The **Exhibit Hall** at ALEC meetings is a popular networking hub for state legislators and policy experts, making exhibiting an effective medium to get your message out to hundreds of state and local leaders, policymakers and industry professionals to grow your network.

Contact [Madison Crawley](#) for details on being an Exhibitor.

Contact [Membership](#) for details on Sponsoring the event.

Register Now!

[Click Here](#)

---

### Save the Date!

Save the date for the ALEC 2022 States & Nation Policy Summit this November 20 – December 2 in Washington, DC! ALEC members and friends will gather for three days of discussion on the critical issues facing the states and nation. Registration for the 2022 States & Nation Policy Summit will open in the Summer of 2022.

Questions? Contact the [ALEC Events Team](#)



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**Sent:** 3/10/2022 3:50:12 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

Our policy team put out two blog posts this past week. One of them looks at the massive omnibus spending package attempting to fly through Congress. The other evaluates President Biden's energy policy and separates out fact from fiction. Registration for our Annual Meeting just opened, and there's a new episode of Across the States—and interview on Small Business Reform with our state legislator of the month, Rep. John Wills.

 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

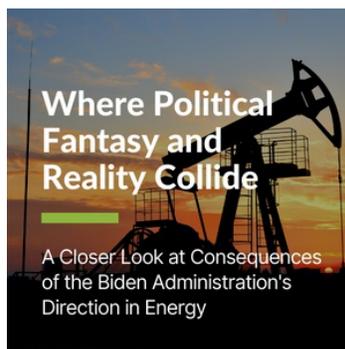


There's a new spending package making its way through Congress. It's a bill with a clear political message: support this massive omnibus spending effort or suffer the political consequences of a partial government shutdown.

As Congress deliberates over the 2,700-page bill, Americans are already feeling the weight of inflation at the gas pump, the grocery store, and everywhere in between. This bill is the last thing Americans need. Click below to read more.

[Read](#)

 **ENERGY**



The national average for a gallon of gas has reached a record high in the last week. Regardless of the Biden administration's reasoning for why that's the case, there are a few discernible policy decisions that have let us here.

In a recent blog post, ALEC's policy team helps separate out the fact from fiction on why gas prices have almost doubled in less than two years—and the key decisions that debilitated America's energy independence.

[Read](#)



## ALEC's February Legislator of the Month

Listen to an Across the States Interview with Rep. John Wills on Small Business Reform

Small businesses are responsible for more than 60% of all new jobs created in the United States.

In Iowa, Representative John Wills is leading the charge to invest in the entrepreneurs, home-based businesses, and cottage industries who make up the backbone of our economy.

On today's episode of Across the States, ALEC's February State Legislator of the Month and Board of Directors member Representative John Wills joins Gretchen Balda, Director of the Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development Task Force, and Matt Fisher to discuss his efforts to support small businesses and deliver results for constituents.

[Listen](#)



## Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

ALEC's Annual Meeting Taking Place in Atlanta, Georgia July 27th through July 29th

Registration is now open!

ALEC's Annual Meeting will take place in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27th -29th and is one of the nation's largest collaborative examinations of state policy. Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state level solutions to those issues.

This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the problems facing our nation.

[Register Today!](#)

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**Sent:** 3/11/2022 4:28:49 PM  
**To:** lraymond@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week in Across the States

Across the States

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## Across The States

The Premier State Policy Podcast Produced by the  
American Legislative Exchange Council

Dear: Laura,

This week *Across the States* released two podcasts delving into law enforcement reform and small businesses.

### State Legislator of the Month

In [episode 116](#), learn about the efforts of our State Legislator of the Month for February, Rep. John Wills of Iowa to invest in small businesses. Rep. Wills and I sat down with ALEC's Director of Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development, Gretchen Baldau, for a discussion on the action he is pursuing in the Iowa Legislature to support entrepreneurs and job creation.

[Click here to listen!](#)

### An Interview with Former NYPD Officer Rob O'Donnell

And in [episode 115](#), tune in for a sit-down interview between Nino Marchese, Director of the ALEC Task Forces for Civil and Criminal Justice, and Rob O'Donnell, Senior National Law Enforcement Contributor for Law Enforcement Today and retired NYPD Detective, covering how lawmakers can best support the police and reform law enforcement.

[Click here to listen!](#)

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**Sent:** 3/11/2022 4:28:49 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week in Across the States

Across the States

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## Across The States

The Premier State Policy Podcast Produced by the  
American Legislative Exchange Council

Dear: Barb,

This week *Across the States* released two podcasts delving into law enforcement reform and small businesses.

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[Click here to listen!](#)

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[Click here to listen!](#)

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**Sent:** 3/11/2022 4:29:10 PM  
**To:** dducey@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week in Across the States

Across the States

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## Across The States

The Premier State Policy Podcast Produced by the  
American Legislative Exchange Council

Dear: Doug,

This week *Across the States* released two podcasts delving into law enforcement reform and small businesses.

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[Click here to listen!](#)

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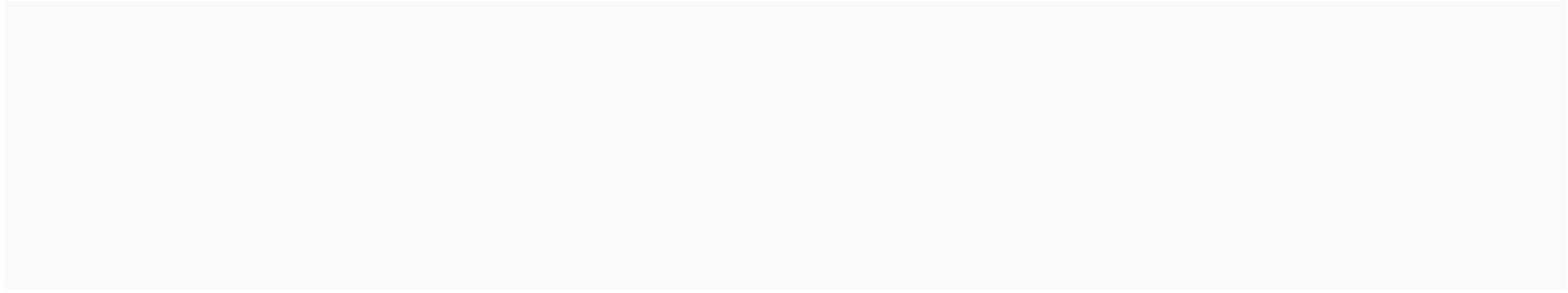
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**Sent:** 3/11/2022 4:29:19 PM  
**To:** druiz@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week in Across the States

Across the States

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## Across The States

The Premier State Policy Podcast Produced by the  
American Legislative Exchange Council

Dear: Daniel,

This week *Across the States* released two podcasts delving into law enforcement reform and small businesses.

### State Legislator of the Month

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**Sent:** 3/15/2022 4:53:25 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Events and Education

Events and Education, March 2022

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ALEC's policy team has put out a blog post explaining the teachers' strike in Minneapolis. Our CIED Task Force is preparing for an upcoming webinar on worker rights and labor reform for ALEC members. Registration for our Annual Meeting is now open, and we've brought you a video clip on women's history month featuring Congresswoman Yvette Herrell. For more on all these topics, read below!



**POLICY BLOGPOST**



The Minneapolis Teachers Union officially went on strike this Tuesday, plunging the district into an indefinite shutdown and suddenly sending parents scrambling for alternatives. What are the issues at play? What are the teachers' demands? Our Policy Team explains the situation below.

[Read](#)



**ALEC ANNUAL MEETING**



**ALEC WEBINAR**



Join ALEC's Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development (CIED) Task Force this Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm ET for an ALEC Policy Hour focusing on workers' rights and labor reform. Listen in as issue experts from [Associated Builders and Contractors](#), the [American Hotel & Lodging Association](#), and [Senator Tim Scott's](#) office discuss the challenges facing workers and employers and the possible reforms that address these issues. For questions about this upcoming event, you can email CIED's Taskforce Director [by clicking here](#).

To watch CIED's last Webinar, click below!

[Watch](#)



**WOMEN'S HISTORY**

## Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

ALEC's Annual Meeting Taking  
Place in Atlanta, Georgia July  
27th through July 29th

Registration is now open!

ALEC's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27th 29th and is one of the nation's largest collaborative examinations of state policy. Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state level solutions to those issues.

This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the problems facing our country.

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## Congresswoman Herrell on Women's History

Watch a Short Video on the  
Reflections of New Mexico  
Representative, Yvette Herrell

"In Women's History Month, I would like to thank my mom... my sisters, my other relatives. But I also want to thank the women who shaped me into the person I am today—the people like Lisa Nelson, like Clea Mitchell, the women that won their races last year to bring the most women into the U.S. House of Representatives as Republicans."

Click below to watch the full clip!

[Watch](#)

**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <jbethke@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 3/17/2022 6:19:26 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

There's a pair of new episodes of Across the States, brought to you from the front lines of the conflict in Ukraine. We celebrate the memory of longtime ALEC friend and policy giant, Bob Williams. Be sure to attend our CIED Taskforce webinar tomorrow and we invite you to register for ALEC's 49th Annual Meeting. To read more about these topics, scroll below.

## ACROSS THE STATES



### On the Frontlines in Kyiv Parts I & II

An Interview with Mykola Vorobiov and ALEC's Karla Jones

In a two-part special by Across the States on the war in Ukraine, Mykola Vorobiov, Austrian Marshall Plan Foundation Fellow & Journalist based in Kyiv, Ukraine, joined Karla Jones, Sr. Director of the ALEC Task Force on International Relations and Federalism, on February 22, 2022. Together, their discussion brings a close-up look at the conflict in Ukraine. Click below to listen!

[Listen](#)

## ALEC FAMILY



### In Memory of Bob Williams

Remembering a Free Market Policy Giant and Longtime Friend of ALEC

"Bob was a beloved member of our ALEC family, having served as an ALEC member as a Washington state legislator from 1979 to 1989, a member of the PEAC, and a member of the ALEC staff. Bob's passing is such a loss for the cause of freedom across the states. However, Bob's legacy of principled policy solutions will certainly live on at ALEC — and with our members in all 50 states."

- ALEC CEO Lisa Nelson

Click below to read about the life of Bob Williams and the impact he had on the state policy at ALEC and across the country.

[Read](#)

## TASK FORCE WEBINAR



## CIED Taskforce Webinar: Workers Rights and Labor Reform

A Member-Only Event on  
Friday, March 18th at 2:00  
p.m. EST

Join ALEC's Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development (CIED) Task Force this Friday, March 18th at 2:00pm ET for an ALEC Policy Hour focusing on workers' rights and labor reform. Listen in as issue experts from the Associated Builders and Contractors, the American Hotel & Lodging Association, and Senator Tim Scott's office discuss the challenges facing workers and employers and the possible reforms that address these issues. To sign up for this upcoming event, you can email CIED's Taskforce Director, [Gretchen Baldau](#) by [clicking here](#).



ALEC EVENTS



## Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

ALEC's Annual Meeting Taking Place in Atlanta, Georgia July 27th through July 29th

Registration is now open!

ALEC's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27th - 29th is one of the nation's largest collaborative incubators of state policy. Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state level solutions to those issues.

This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the problems facing our country.

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**From:** Gretchen Baldau <gbaldau@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 3/18/2022 8:00:25 AM  
**To:** Laura Raymond <lraymond@az.gov>  
**Subject:** FINAL REMINDER: CIED Webinar Today at 2pm ET - Workers' Rights and Labor Reform

**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi Laura,

FINAL REMINDER: The joint CIED Task Force webinar and ALEC Policy Hour is scheduled for **today at 2:00pm ET**. It will feature presentations focusing on **workers' rights and labor reforms** by [Associated Builders and Contractors](#), the [American Hotel & Lodging Association](#), and Kunal Parikh from [Senator Tim Scott's](#) office.

To receive a link for today's (March 18<sup>th</sup>) event, [click here](#).

Related resources can be found below:

- [Map of current states](#) with existing policies dealing with project labor agreements
- [Government-Mandated Project Labor Agreements Overview](#)
- ALEC's [Open Contracting Act](#).

Thanks,

Gretchen Baldau  
*Director*, Commerce, Insurance, and Economic Development Task Force  
Mobile: 702-278-4173  
Direct: 571-482-5038  
[gbaldau@alec.org](mailto:gbaldau@alec.org)  
2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202



Upcoming Meetings:

2022 Annual Meeting, July 27 – 29, Atlanta, GA  
2022 States and Nation Policy Summit, November 30 – December 2, Washington, D.C.



**From:** Gretchen Baldau <gbaldau@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 3/18/2022 8:51:55 AM  
**To:** Laura Raymond <lraymond@az.gov>  
**Subject:** Recall: FINAL REMINDER: CIED Webinar Today at 2pm ET - Workers' Rights and Labor Reform

---

Gretchen Baldau would like to recall the message, "FINAL REMINDER: CIED Webinar Today at 2pm ET - Workers' Rights and Labor Reform".

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**Sent:** 3/22/2022 5:58:11 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Events and Education

Events and Education, March 2022

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ALEC has released its most recent publication, the 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom, ranking the governors of the United States. ALEC is back on the road this week as we visit Georgia to discuss fiscal policy. And our Policy Team had released a blog post on rising gas prices. Read more about these topics below!



**GOVERNORS REPORT**



Who are the best governors in the United States? That's the question raised by our most recent publication, the 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom. The ALEC Policy Team and the Laffer Group together evaluate the policies of all 50 governors in the U.S., ranking them 1-50. To read the report, click below!

[Click Here](#)



**POLICY BRIEFING**



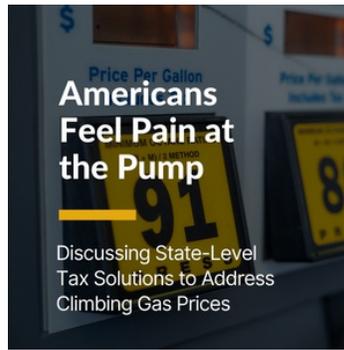
The ALEC Policy Team travels to Atlanta, Georgia this week. Jonathan Williams, Executive Vice President of Policy at ALEC, will be joining the Hunter Hotel Investment Conference. Later on, other ALEC team members will host an economic policy Issue Briefing with state leaders including the Georgia Public Policy Foundation and the Georgia Director for the National Federation of Independent Business.

To contact ALEC about having a workshop in your state, please reach out to Jonathan Williams. You can email him by using the link below.

[Email](#)



**ENERGY**



In their new article, Lee Schalk and ALEC Energy, Environment and Agriculture Task Force Director Joe Trotter discuss the various state proposals to suspend the gas tax amid record high prices at the pump.

[Read](#)

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**Sent:** 3/24/2022 5:56:52 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

This week, our Policy Team released two new blog posts, providing insight into key events in healthcare and international supply chain issues. The first takes a look at Virginia's bill on healthcare price transparency. The second evaluates the impact of the Ukraine conflict on the supply of wheat. ALEC has released its 2021 Governors Report and we invite you to register for ALEC's 49th Annual Meeting. Be sure to listen to our latest episode of Across the States—an interview with Representative Phil Green on addressing challenges in agriculture. Read more about all of these topics below!

 **HEALTHCARE**



## Op-ed with the Virginian Pilot: Transparency in Healthcare

Brooklyn Roberts, HHS Director at ALEC, Writes About Virginia's H.B. 481

"Patients are paying for their health care, be it through cost-sharing measures or insurance premiums, and it is important for them to understand the cost of the services they are receiving."

Brooklyn Roberts, the Director of ALEC's Health and Human Services Task Force, recently placed an article with the Virginian-Pilot, explaining Virginia's new bipartisan bill. The proposed law, House Bill 481 would require price transparency for medical services—and that's a win for anyone in need of medical attention. Read more below!

[Read](#)

 **INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**



## Agriculture and the Conflict in Ukraine

A Look at the International Supply Chain for Wheat and its Impact on American Farms

The conflict in Eastern Europe is beginning to take a toll on the international supply chain for agricultural products, particularly wheat and barley. With Russia and Ukraine both producing nearly one third of the global barley and wheat supply, the conflict is serving to destabilize markets.

Our Policy Team breaks down the impact and offers state legislators some resources on how to support American farmers.

[Read](#)

 **PUBLICATIONS**



Who are the best governors in the United States? That's the question raised by our most recent publication, the "2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom, Grading Americas Governors." The Laffer Group and the ALEC Policy Team evaluate the policies of all 50 governors, ranking them 1-50. To read the report, click below!

[Click Here](#)

#### ALEC EVENTS



Registration is now open!

ALEC's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27th - 29th is one of the nation's largest collaborative incubators of state policy. Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state level solutions to those issues.

This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the problems facing our country.

[Register Today!](#)

#### ACROSS THE STATES

The Russian invasion of Ukraine combined with regulations at the state and federal level have presented a myriad of challenges for rural Americans and the agriculture industry.

Join Matthew Fisher and Joe Trotter, Director of the ALEC Task Force on Energy, Environment, and Agriculture, as they sit down with Phil Green, Representative from Michigan's 84th District and Chair of the ALEC Subcommittee on Agriculture, to discuss the potential of food shortages, job losses, and more.

[Listen](#)



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**Sent:** 3/28/2022 4:06:00 PM  
**To:** 'dducey@az.gov'  
**Cc:** 'kratlief@az.gov'; 'aharding@az.gov'; 'jagron@az.gov'; 'afoster@az.gov'; Ken Cuccinelli <kcuccinelli@sbalist.org>  
**Subject:** ETI support for H.B. 2492

**Attachments:** [ETI\\_HB2492.pdf](#)

---

Dear Governor Ducey,

On behalf of the Election Transparency Initiative (ETI) and our chairman, former Virginia Attorney General and Acting Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security Ken Cuccinelli, please find attached our letter of support for H.B. 2492.

We would be happy to provide additional explanation, or answer any questions, at your convenience.

Sincerely,  
Michael

---

**MICHAEL J. BARS**  
*Executive Director*  
*Election Transparency Initiative*  
*M: (703) 201-9197*  
[ElectionTransparency.org](#)  
[@ETI\\_now](#)



ELECTION  
TRANSPARENCY  
INITIATIVE



*Fighting for transparent, secure, and accountable elections all voters can trust*

March 28, 2022

Dear Governor Ducey,

I write on behalf of the Election Transparency Initiative, a joint project of the Susan B. Anthony List and the American Principles Project, to express our support for recently passed legislation ensuring only qualified applicants are properly registered and voting in Arizona elections. H.B. 2492 would safeguard your state's voter registration process and restore voters' trust in secure, transparent and accountable elections.

We urge you to sign it into law without delay.

As you know, the right to vote is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution as a fundamental tenant of U.S. citizenship and our democratic process, but it is also codified Arizona law. In 2004, Arizona voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition 200, which required that voter registration applications be accompanied by proof of U.S. citizenship. Unfortunately, since then this voter-approved requirement has been left with no enforcement and an increasing number of individuals who have never had to prove their citizenship are voting in Arizona elections.

Importantly, H.B. 2492 does not place an administrative burden on election officials. Two of the database checks required by H.B. 2492 are purportedly already used by election officials under the directive of the Elections Procedures Manual. Because H.B. 2492 would require election officials to reject state forms without proof of citizenship, there would be no added workload to check additional databases for these applications for registration.

Additionally, counties will not have to comb through voter rolls to remove individuals who have never provided proof of citizenship because they registered to vote prior to Prop 200. Such individuals are "grandfathered in" and are deemed to have provided satisfactory evidence of citizenship. Thus, they would still be qualified electors under H.B. 2492.

Make no mistake, illegal aliens and non-citizens should not be voting in U.S. elections, be it in Arizona or any other state. Only U.S. citizens should be able to decide the outcome of Arizona elections.

H.B. 2492 is a commonsense solution to an increasingly concerning, coordinated effort by the Left to undermine the right to vote on a national scale. Giving those who lack citizenship the ability to vote not only dilutes the voice and votes of U.S. citizens, but also undermines those

who have dutifully adhered to the lawful process of naturalization in order to attain the full rights of citizenship.

Attached for your [reference is a letter](#) I was happy to sign in support of H.B. 2492 as part of a national coalition of organizations dedicated to free and fair elections voters can trust.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Cuccinelli". The signature is stylized, with the first name "Ken" written in a cursive-like font and the last name "Cuccinelli" written in a more formal, blocky cursive style.

**Ken Cuccinelli**

Chairman, Election Transparency Initiative  
Former Virginia Attorney General  
Former Virginia State Senator  
Former Acting Deputy Secretary of DHS  
Original Member of the COVID-19 Task Force

*The Election Transparency Initiative, a joint project of Susan B. Anthony List and American Principles Project, was organized to combat federal H.R. 1 and H.R. 4 legislation and advocate for state-based election reforms that voters can trust.*

**From:** Katie Ratlief <kratlief@az.gov>  
**Sent:** 3/29/2022 4:16:03 PM  
**To:** Michael Bars <MBars@sbalist.org>  
**Cc:** dducey@az.gov; aharding@az.gov; jagron@az.gov; afoster@az.gov; Ken Cuccinelli <kcuccinelli@sbalist.org>  
**Subject:** Re: ETI support for H.B. 2492

---

Thank you, received.

On Mon, Mar 28, 2022 at 4:06 PM Michael Bars <MBars@sbalist.org> wrote:

Dear Governor Ducey,

On behalf of the Election Transparency Initiative (ETI) and our chairman, former Virginia Attorney General and Acting Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security Ken Cuccinelli, please find attached our letter of support for H.B. 2492.

We would be happy to provide additional explanation, or answer any questions, at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Michael

---

**MICHAEL J. BARS**

*Executive Director*

*Election Transparency Initiative*

*M: (703) 201-9197*

[ElectionTransparency.org](http://ElectionTransparency.org)

[@ETI\\_now](#)

--  
**Katie Ratlief** | Office of Arizona Governor Doug Ducey  
*Deputy Chief of Staff*  
O. (602) 542-3465 | C. (480) 570-7887  
[www.azgovernor.gov](http://www.azgovernor.gov)

**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <lbriceno@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 3/29/2022 6:24:28 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Events and Education

Events and Education, March 2022

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ALEC's policy team has put out a blog post examining the threat of a food crisis and how states can best brace for its impact. We've published a video featuring Dr. Arthur Laffer on why tools like the 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom help keep America's governors accountable. ALEC placed an op-ed with the National Review, discussing Iowa's historic tax cuts, and we're celebrating Women's History Month by highlighting some of the women in the ALEC community. If you haven't already, don't forget to register for this year's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia by clicking below. To read more about all these subjects, scroll below!

 **ON THE AIR**



Two of ALEC's policy experts recently went on the air with WIZM Radio to discuss the oncoming food production shortage resulting from the conflict in Ukraine and its impact on supply.

Together, they discuss what state legislatures can do to ease the supply shortages. You can listen to their conversation by clicking below!

[Read](#)

 **GOVERNORS REPORT**



"Americans deserve the very best when it comes to their governments. They want government to serve them with full accountability." Dr. Arthur Laffer breaks down why the Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom is a tool with which to hold governors accountable.

Click below to watch a short message from Dr. Laffer on how the report does just that.

[Watch](#)

 **IN THE NEWS**

 **WOMEN'S HISTORY**

## Iowa: A Better State of Taxation

An Op-Ed with National Review on Iowa's Historic Tax Cuts

Jonathan Williams, Executive Vice President of Policy at ALEC, and Vice President of Policy Lee Schalk recently placed an op-ed with National Review on the historic tax cuts in Iowa.

In their article, they explain why the bill, which is estimated to provide up to \$2 billion in tax relief, is a huge win for the state of Iowa. Governor Kim Reynolds and the rest of the Iowa Legislature have opted to invest in the future of the state. Read more about the bill below!

[Read](#)



ALEC ANNUAL MEETING

Registration is now open!

ALEC's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27th - 29th is one of the nation's largest collaborative incubators of state policy.

Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state and local solutions to those issues. This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the problems facing our country.

[Register Today!](#)

## Celebrating Women's History Month

Testimonies from Women in Leadership on the Role Models They're Thankful for

ALEC invites you to celebrate Women's History Month with us! Click below to watch two videos on women in the ALEC community sharing their appreciation for the female role models in their life.

[Arizona Senate President Karen Fann](#), ALEC National Chairwoman

[State Senator Leah Vukmir](#), Former ALEC National Chairwoman

In these videos, these exemplary women highlight the examples in their life that encouraged them to reach the heights they've achieved today.

## Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

ALEC's Annual Meeting Taking Place in Atlanta, Georgia July 27th through July 29th

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**Sent:** 3/30/2022 8:48:50 AM  
**To:** dducey@az.gov  
**Cc:** jagron@az.gov; aharding@az.gov; kratlief@az.gov  
**Subject:** Heritage Action supports HB2492

---

Governor Ducey,

On behalf of Heritage Action for America, a national grassroots organization with two million conservative activists nationwide, including thousands of Arizonans, we urge you to sign House Bill 2492 into law.

Congress continues to consider a federal takeover of our elections with bills like H.R.1 and H.R.4 - making it even more important for Arizona to make House Bill 2492 law and reassert the state's constitutional powers over elections.

HB2492 is a common-sense and necessary safeguard to protect the accuracy of our voter rolls. This bill ensures that only citizens are able to vote in Arizona's elections and it strengthens proof of citizenship requirements for voter registration applications.

**Heritage Action supports House Bill 2492 and respectfully asks you to sign this bill into law.**

Best,  
Nathan Duell

**Nathan Duell**  
Western Regional Coordinator  
Heritage Action for America

 [202-438-4201](tel:202-438-4201)  
 [nathan.duell@heritageaction.com](mailto:nathan.duell@heritageaction.com)  
 [heritageaction.com](http://heritageaction.com)



**From:** Lisa B. Nelson <lisanelson@alec.org>  
**Sent:** 3/31/2022 2:14:10 PM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** CEO Update: Evaluating Excellent Leadership in Difficult Times



Dear friends,

When a reporter [recently asked President Biden](#) if he had a message to the American people on climbing gas prices, the President offered this answer:

“They’re going to go up,” Biden said. “Can’t do much right now. Russia is responsible.”

We respectfully disagree with the President. We believe there *are* solutions—not just for gas shortages but for all the challenges facing Americans today—that we *can* do something about them, and that there *is* leadership in America that will see it through.

But the reality is that it won’t come from Washington, D.C. or big government.

At ALEC, we find ways to increase the effectiveness of state-based solutions; to give local leaders the tools they need to protect and nurture their corner of the world. And the reason for that is simple: we believe that the people who are most suited to solve problems are often the people *closest* to those problems.

As demonstrated by our newly-released [2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom](#), every time big government is compared to state-based solutions, it can’t keep pace. We’ve taken the policies of every governor in America and evaluated them in a few key areas. What we’ve found is that growth happens most readily when it is entrusted to the individual. Instead of passing blame, the best leaders in America find ways to facilitate difficult times and empower people to persevere.

[We want to extend congratulations](#) to Governor Kristi Noem of South Dakota for doing exactly that as she ranks first in this year’s evaluation. In the middle of a pandemic, Governor Noem found ways to cut down on unemployment, empower businesses to make decisions that were right for them and ultimately increased state revenue. To read more about where other governors stand on our rankings, you can visit our website, [RankMyGovernor, by clicking here](#).

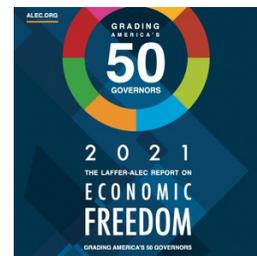
Governor Noem isn’t the only female legislator we want to highlight. It’s women’s history month and ALEC is incredibly thankful to be working with hundreds of female legislators—leaders who take charge on all sorts of issues. We want to thank representatives like Governor Kim Reynolds and Governor Kay Ivey and others for fighting to maintain the integrity of women’s sports. [We stand with Representative Victoria Spartz](#) and her plea on behalf of her home country of Ukraine. And we want to say thank you to the mothers all across the country who have decided [to become increasingly invested in their children’s education](#). The involvement of these women makes for a stronger United States.

Finally, I personally want to recognize quiet, sacrificial leadership. [Bob Williams](#) wasn’t a governor or a federal representative, but as a former state legislator in the state of Washington and then as an ALEC policy advisor, Bob never tired of working to bring about responsible state budget solutions. Following his time in office, Bob devoted his career to promoting balanced state fiscal policy, forever changing the American policy landscape. This past month, Bob passed away, leaving a hole in the ALEC family. He will always be remembered for his unwavering dedication to his core principles and the relentlessness he brought to work every day.

With all these examples, there are too many instances of excellent leadership in the states for us at ALEC to accept the President’s suggestion that we just have to wait until things get better. We plan to continue working with you to [promote American energy independence](#), make breakthroughs in [healthcare policy](#), [fight back against crime](#), and much more. And we hope you’ll continue engaging with us to bring about state-based victories.

Your Friend,

Lisa B. Nelson  
Chief Executive Officer



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**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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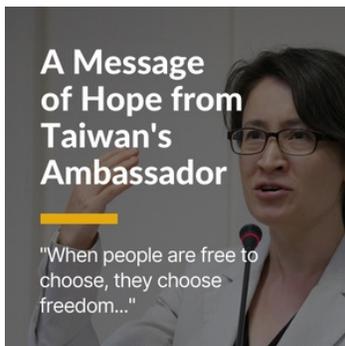
## This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

This week, Jonathan Williams went on the air with WBOB Radio and One America News to discuss two sides of the same coin: What makes a good governor and what makes a bad one? Taiwan's Ambassador reaches out with a message of hope, and we are celebrating Women's History Month by highlighting the role models of the women in the ALEC community—including ALEC's CEO, Lisa B. Nelson. Read more about all these topics below!



### INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS



March is Women's History Month and to commemorate it, ALEC is sharing messages from female leaders who are our members and our friends. This [video](#) submitted by Taiwan's Ambassador Bi-Khim Hsiao offers words of hope for peace.

[Read](#)



### IN THE NEWS



What kinds of qualities make a remarkable governor? ALEC's Jonathan Williams, Executive Vice President of Policy and Chief Economist, joins WBOB Radio in Florida to discuss the question and provide the answer.

[Read](#)



### IN THE NEWS

## On OAN: Bad Governors Double Down on Spending

ALEC's Jonathan Williams Goes on the Air to Discuss what Makes a Poor Governor

Jonathan Williams went live with One America News earlier this week to discuss what makes a governor underperform as a state's chief executive.

"Governors at the bottom five were governors that advocated or in some cases really did enact tax increases on their hard working taxpayers in recent years," Williams said. "These big government policies are clearly having an impact on their economies."

Click below to watch the interview!

[Watch](#)

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 ALEC COMMUNITY

## Celebrating Women's History Month

Testimonies from Women in Leadership on Their Role Models

ALEC invites you to celebrate Women's History Month with us! Click below to watch two videos on women in the ALEC community sharing their appreciation for the female role models in their life!

[ALEC CEO Lisa B. Nelson](#)

[Karen Fann](#), President of the Arizona State Senate and current ALEC National Chairwoman

[U.S. Congresswoman Yvette Herrell](#)

[Leah Vukmir](#), former ALEC National Chair and State Senator

**From:** American Legislative Exchange Council <lbriceno@alec.org>  
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**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Events and Education

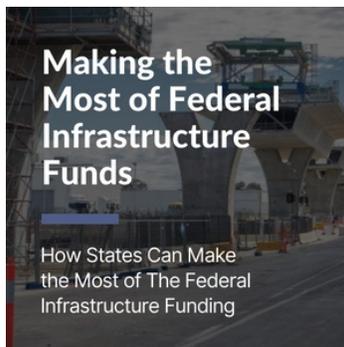
Events and Education, April 2022

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How can states make the best use of the funding from the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act? Why are there substantially fewer unionized public employees than *private sector* employees? The ALEC Policy Team has published two new blog posts addressing these questions. There's a new episode of *Across the States*, and be sure to register to our Annual Meeting below!

 **INFRASTRUCTURE**



How can states make the most of the federal funding received from last year's infrastructure package?

Legislatures have a say in identifying their state's infrastructure needs and in deciding how a portion of their funding is spent—but there are quite a few things to consider. What are ways in which state legislatures can approach these decisions with taxpayers in mind? ALEC is here to offer some resources on how to do just that.

[Read](#)

 **ACROSS THE STATES**



The American Legislative Exchange Council recently released the second edition of the 2021 Laffer-ALEC Report on Economic Freedom, Grading America's Governors.

Jonathan Williams, ALEC Chief Economist and Executive Vice President of Policy, and Lee Schalk, Vice President of Policy, joined Matthew Fisher to break down the best and worst governors of America, what the report measures, and highlight the work governors and statehouses are doing in 2022.

[Listen](#)

 **WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

 **MEETING**



## Protecting Public Sector Workers' Rights

An ALEC Policy Blog Post  
Taking a Closer Look at  
Public Unions

Last year, just over 6% of private sector employees were part of a union. For public sector workers union membership was significantly higher—at 33.9%

But why is that the case?

Click below to read more about the history and background of public sector unions to better understand where they find themselves today. Additionally, this blog post explores what states can do to protect public sector workers at their places of work.

[Read](#)

## Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

ALEC's Annual Meeting Taking Place in Atlanta, Georgia from July 27th through July 29th

Registration is now open!

ALEC's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27th - 29th is one of the nation's largest collaborative incubators of state policy.

Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state and local solutions to those issues. This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the problems facing our country.

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**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** 49th ALEC Annual Meeting

Join us for ALEC's 49th Annual Meeting

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## Explore Opportunities at the 49th ALEC Annual Meeting!

As ALEC CEO, Lisa Nelson, recently said—we find ways to increase the effectiveness of state-based solutions; to give local leaders the tools they need to protect and nurture their corner of the world. And the reason for that is simple: we believe that the people who are most suited to solve problems are often the people *closest* to those problems.

Have you registered for the [49th ALEC Annual Meeting](#)? Take this opportunity to explore the ideas that are driving America forward as there is no better place to discover crucial policy solutions than the ALEC Annual Meeting.

### Important Dates:

- Early-bird rates end **June 1, 2022**
- Standard rates begin **June 2, 2022**
- On-site rates begin on **June 30, 2022**

[Register Here](#)

## Speaker Announcement

**Vivek Ramaswamy** is a *New York Times* bestselling author and a successful entrepreneur who has founded multiple successful enterprises. A first-generation American, he is the founder and executive chairman of Roivant Sciences, a new type of biopharmaceutical company focused on the application of technology to drug development. He founded Roivant in 2014 and led the largest biotech IPOs of 2015 and 2016, eventually culminating in successful clinical trials in multiple disease areas that led to FDA-approved products.



Join us to interact with leaders like Vivek Ramaswamy and discuss the future of America.

## Host Hotel

The 49th ALEC Annual Meeting will take place at The Hilton Atlanta Downtown Hotel. To book a room in the ALEC housing block, please [register for the 49th ALEC Annual Meeting](#). A link to book a hotel room will be included in your registration confirmation email.

## Get more out of Annual Meeting

The **Exhibit Hall** at ALEC meetings is a popular networking hub for state legislators and policy experts, making exhibiting an effective medium to get your message out to hundreds of state and local leaders, policymakers and industry professionals to grow your network.

- Contact [Madison Crawley](#) for details on being an Exhibitor.
- Contact [Development](#) for details on Sponsoring the event.

Register Now!

[Click Here](#)

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## Save the Date!

Save the date for the ALEC 2022 States & Nation Policy Summit this November 20 – December 2 in Washington, DC! ALEC members and friends will gather for three days of discussion on the critical issues facing the states and nation. Registration for the 2022 States & Nation Policy Summit will open in the Summer of 2022.

Questions? Contact the [ALEC Events Team](#)



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**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

This week, ALEC approved two model policies: "The State Government Employee Retirement Protection Act" and "The Resolution Urging Congress to Permanently Extend the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017." The Wall Street Journal published an article unpacking the former, and Jonathan Williams placed an article with the National Review regarding the latter.

 MODEL POLICY

A blue square graphic with a large, light blue 'A' logo. The text reads: "New ALEC Model Policy" followed by "The State Government Employee Retirement Protection Act".

"The State Government Employee Retirement Protection Act" aims to strengthen fiduciary rules to protect pensioners from politically driven investment strategies. These strategies reduce investment returns over the long term which leads to underfunding in state pension plans across the country.

[Read](#)

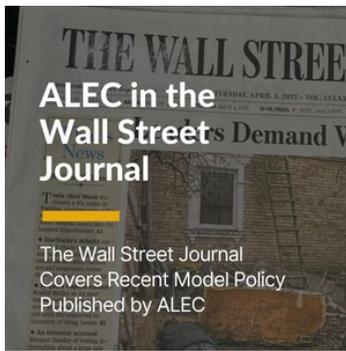
 MODEL POLICY

A blue square graphic with a large, light blue 'A' logo. The text reads: "New ALEC Model Policy" followed by "Resolution Urging Congress to Permanently Extend The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017".

The "Resolution Urging Congress to Permanently Extend the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017" encourages Congress to permanently extend the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA), which was signed into law by President Donald Trump in 2017. Allowing this essential tax relief to expire would undoubtedly harm hardworking American taxpayers, slow the growth of the U.S. economy, and further harm America's ability to compete.

[Read](#)

 IN THE NEWS



The Wall Street Journal covered one of ALEC's model policies in their recent article, "Conservative Group Wants to Stop State Pensions From Pursuing ESG Initiatives."

"The American Legislative Exchange Council, an association of state legislators, on Wednesday put forward model legislation that provides states a template for laws to keep pension funds from following so-called environmental, social and governance trends," the article reads.

Click below to read the WSJ article!

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National Review recently published an op-ed written by ALEC's Vice President of Policy, Jonathan Williams, coauthored with ALEC Vice President of Policy Lee Schalk. Their article covers the historic \$2 billion tax cuts in Iowa and what it means for the state. You can read the op-ed by clicking below!

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**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** This Week at ALEC

This Week at ALEC

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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

This week, ALEC was featured in three different news outlets. Appearances on NTD News, Talkback Radio and RealClear Politics allowed ALEC's policy team to explain topics like why politically charged investment schemes hurt retirees, how California is attempting to control a nationwide market and the "opportunity project" making its way through the states. Scroll below to read more on all of these topics!

 **IN THE NEWS**

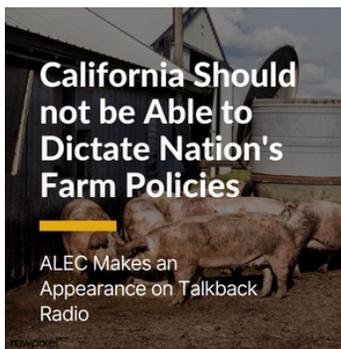


ALEC's Chief Economist and Executive Vice President of Policy, Jonathan Williams, recently made an appearance on NTD News to discuss politically motivated investment schemes that are likely to hurt retirees. The problem comes as some states propose using pension funds to advance politically progressive agendas. That, Jonathan Williams says, would only hurt the financial aid portioned out for retirees and improperly use pension funds.

To watch the interview, click below!

[Read](#)

 **IN THE NEWS**



California recently implemented a measure that would force pork producers across the country to adhere to certain requirements set out by the Golden State on how to raise, house, and look after their hogs.

On a recent appearance on Talkback Radio, ALEC policy expert Joe Trotter lays out why this requirement will only work to the detriment of the pork industry. Listen below!

[Read](#)

 **IN THE NEWS**



## The 'Great Opportunity Project' and Good Policy

Several States are Adopting Policies to Counteract Tax Increases

Next Monday is Tax Day, the last day for Americans to file their 2021 tax returns. This year's Tax Day coincides with President Biden's recent proposal to raise taxes on small businesses, corporations, and individuals by \$2.5 trillion. His plan would partly reverse the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act signed at the end of 2017 that led to historic shared economic prosperity in 2018 and 2019.

That's something that's prompting more states to join the "great opportunity project."

Jonathan Williams recently published commentary with RealClear Politics, expanding on how state leadership can keep promoting growth in their state by joining the increasing number of states slashing taxes in key areas. Read that commentary below!

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## Annual Meeting Registration Now Open

ALEC's Annual Meeting Taking Place in Atlanta, Georgia from July 27th through July 29th

Registration is now open!

ALEC's Annual Meeting in Atlanta, Georgia on July 27th - 29th is one of the nation's largest collaborative incubators of state policy.

Attendees will hear insights on some of the nation's most pressing issues—as well as state and local solutions to those issues. This is a great opportunity to join state legislators, private businesses, and federal representatives to work together to bring about market-based, limited government solutions to the problems facing our country.

[Register Today!](#)

**From:** Jonathan Williams <Jwilliams@alec.org>

**Sent:** 4/14/2022 5:18:10 AM

**To:** bconley@az.gov

**Subject:** Reminder: Special Invitation - Preview Rich States, Poor States Economic Outlook Rankings for 2022

An invitation from the Center for State Fiscal Reform

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CENTER FOR STATE FISCAL REFORM

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LIMITED GOVERNMENT • FREE MARKETS • FEDERALISM



### An invitation from the Center for State Fiscal Reform

Friends,

As Tax Day is just around the corner on April 18th this year, I hope you will join us later this morning for the official release of the Rich States, Poor States: ALEC-Laffer State Competitiveness Index 15th edition rankings.

We will be hosting a preview call [today at 11:00am ET](#), featuring Dr. Arthur Laffer and Stephen Moore. If you would like to participate, [please register here](#).

If you plan to write something or give a presentation on the new edition and would like to receive an embargoed copy of this year's rankings, please let me know. We will officially release the new rankings on Monday, April 18th. You won't want to miss this sneak preview of how your state ranks!



[Register Today!](#)

All the best,

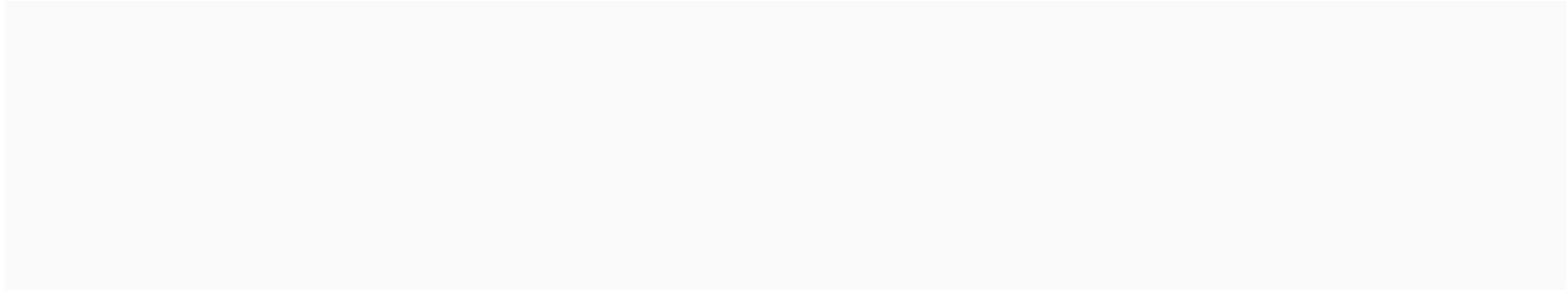
Jonathan Williams  
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This Week at ALEC

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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

This week, the American Legislative Exchange Council was featured in the Washington Times for its model policy on state pension funds. The Policy Team put out a blog post on no-knock raids, and there are two new video segments to watch on current events and national trends. Alongside the content, ALEC invites you to register for our upcoming 49th Annual Meeting. You can save your spot by registering below!

 **IN THE NEWS**



## ALEC in the Washington Times

The American Legislative Exchange Council Mentioned in a Recent Article

The Washington Times recently featured ALEC in an article titled "Conservative Shareholders Target 'Woke' Corporate Boards." The article explains ALEC's Model Policy that state pension funds should not be used for political purposes.

"The American Legislative Exchange Council... recently introduced model legislation that would stop state pension fund managers from introducing "woke criteria" into the investment selection process," the article reads.

[Read](#)

 **CRIMINAL JUSTICE**



## Examining the Risks of No-Knock Raids

A New Blog Post by the ALEC Policy Team on Law Enforcement Practices

In a recently published Policy Blog Post, the ALEC Policy Team evaluates the risks behind no-knock raids, a controversial practice in law enforcement. But what's at the heart of the issue? And what do lawmakers need to understand about no-knock raids? To get a better understanding of some of the underlying uncertainties behind the issue, read the post by clicking below.

[Read](#)

 **PRESS ROOM**



ALEC recently put out two video segments on a pair of significant current events.

Firstly, the ALEC Public Affairs Team interviewed the three newly-elected members of the Manitowoc County, Wisconsin school board. [Click here to watch "Parent's Rights Candidates Flipping Local School Boards."](#)

Secondly, ALEC's Policy Team evaluates the roots of the inflation gripping the country. [Click here to watch "Sticker Shock: How States can Fight Back against Inflation."](#)



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**Sent:** 4/18/2022 11:10:14 AM  
**To:** bconley@az.gov  
**Subject:** Why Americans are Moving to Red States



## Where does your state rank?

Today the American Legislative Exchange Council released its 15<sup>th</sup> annual Rich States, Poor States report ranking states by how well they are governed. Authors Dr. Arthur Laffer, Stephen Moore, and Jonathan Williams consider 15 different measures, including personal, corporate, and property tax rates, and right-to-work laws. ALEC Chief Economist Jonathan Williams told the Daily Caller News Foundation, "The report teaches us that states with lower taxes, especially those that avoid personal income taxes, have seen significantly better rates of in-migration than states with [high-income] tax rates."

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN US FOR AN INTERACTIVE LIVE VIDEO TODAY AT 3:30 PM ET.](#)

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Events and Education, April 2022

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What makes some states positioned for growth? What kinds of policy hold states back? These questions are evaluated and answered in ALEC's newly-released 15th Edition of "Rich States Poor States" and its Economic Performance Ranking. ALEC's policy team went live to discuss the methodology behind that report and we've published a new episode of "Across the States" discussing the runaway inflation gripping the country. For more on all these topics, scroll below!

 PUBLICATIONS

### ALEC Releases 'Rich States Poor States'

The 15th Edition of ALEC's Annual Economic Outlook Ranking

"The 15th Edition of Rich States Poor States" contains the Economic Performance Ranking which is a backward-looking measure based on a state's performance on three important variables: State Gross Domestic Product, Absolute Domestic Migration and Non-Farm Payroll Employment — all of which are highly influenced by policy. This ranking details states' individual performances over the past 10 years based on this economic data.

Where does your state rank? Click below to find out.

[Read](#)

 ACROSS THE STATES

### New Episode of Across the States

An Interview with Lee Schalk and Joe Trotter on Runaway Inflation

Inflation reached record heights in March as prices soared by 8.5%. With working families paying more for gas and groceries, Lee Schalk, Vice President of Policy at ALEC, and Joe Trotter, Director of Energy, Environment, and Agriculture Task Force, joined ALECTv and Across the States to discuss this latest development with Matt Fisher and Catherine Mortensen.

[Listen](#)

 MEETING

 INTHESTUDIO



The ALEC Policy Team went live recently to discuss the methodology and ideas behind the 15th Edition of "Rich States Poor States." The Report, which evaluates the economic trajectory of all 50 states, looks at key areas of policy. But what are those key areas? And what makes them indicators of future economic performance? Executive Vice President of Policy at Chief Economist at ALEC Jonathan Williams and Lee Schalk, Vice President of Policy, discuss the topic. Click below to watch the recording.

[Watch](#)



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This Week at ALEC

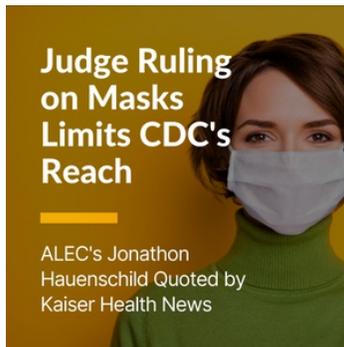
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# This Week at ALEC

Keeping you up to date with the latest happenings at the American Legislative Exchange Council

Following the release of ALEC's 15th Edition of "Rich States Poor States" (RSPS), state leaders in Utah called the report "monumental," saying it was a valuable indication of state trajectory. Jonathon Hauenschild, ALEC's Director for its Communication and Technology Task Force, comments on a recent court ruling limiting the power of the CDC, and ALEC's policy team went live on Liberty Watch Radio to discuss newly-approved Model Policy. To read more on all these topics, scroll below!



Kaiser Health News recently published an article on the CDC's rule requiring the use of masks on public transportation. A federal judge in Florida held that the CDC exceeded their rulemaking authority and invalidated the CDC's mask mandate. ALEC's Director for the Communications and Technology Task Force says this decision works in the favor of maintaining a balance of power in matters of public health.

Click below to read the article!

[Read](#)



State leaders in Utah described the publication of RSPS as "monumental" and said the report gives them confidence in Utah's growth—even in difficult times.

"With interest rates rising, with inflation on the horizon, this speaks very well for Utah's future. And even with some of those issues, our future is bright," Utah's Senate President Stuart Adams said.

[Read](#)





ALEC recently voted on and approved model policy titled *Resolution Urging Congress to Permanently Extend the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017*.

ALEC recently took to the airwaves with Liberty Watch Radio to discuss why this model policy would help produce growth. The Policy Team, joined by ALEC's Chair for the Tax and Fiscal Policy Task Force, Vince Leach, discuss the resolution. Listen to the full interview by clicking below!

[Listen](#)



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