



A project of  
the Center for  
Media and  
Democracy

August 5, 2013

State Chairman, American Legislative Exchange Council

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are writing on behalf of Common Cause and the Center for Media and Democracy to request that you fully disclose which [INSERT state] legislators are receiving ALEC “scholarships” to travel to ALEC’s annual conference in Chicago this week, and who contributed those funds. We are also calling on you to fully disclose the source and amounts of income and expenditures for the [STATE] “scholarship” fund from 2009-2013.

Common Cause and the Center for Media and Democracy have raised concerns with the IRS and state regulators about whether these “scholarship” funds are being appropriately reported on ALEC’s federal tax returns, and operated in compliance with state gift, lobbying and disclosure laws.

Regardless of the answers to those legal questions, it is in the best interest of the public and ALEC to operate these funds for legislator travel with complete transparency, and ALEC’s national leadership promised this past spring to be more open about the organization’s activities. Voters have a right to know who is paying for the travel expenses of their elected representatives, especially when they are traveling to meet with leaders of corporations that have a financial stake in passage of ALEC legislation.

Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Arn H. Pearson  
Vice President for Policy and Litigation  
Common Cause

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Graves". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lisa Graves  
Executive Director  
Center for Media and Democracy