



April 27th, 2011

Mr. Ron Scheberle
Executive Director
American Legislative Exchange Council
1101 Vermont Ave. NW, 11th Floor
Washington, DC 20005

Mr. Scheberle:

One hundred forty eight years ago, with the bodies on the field of battle at Gettysburg barely cold, President Lincoln addressed a mourning nation. Those dead, he said, had not died in vain because their sacrifice ensured that "government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from this earth."

We write to you today because we believe that your organization's actions dishonor those dead and place in peril the system of government they died to defend. The least that you owe them is the decency is to acknowledge your actions so that a democratic discussion may be had on the policies that you have pushed. We stand here today to ask of you four small measures.

First, your organization has not made full disclosure of your donors' names and amounts given. If our government is to be of the people, it is unfitting for a privileged few to set the public agenda from the shadows. We ask you to make full disclosure of all donors on all amounts given over \$200.

Second, your organization has a number of members who hold elected office. If our government is to be by the people, they deserve to know when their elected representatives are members of groups which provide privileged access to the legislative process. We ask you to call upon your elected membership to make full disclosure of their participation in your organization.

Third, your organization disseminates and coordinates legislative agendas across state governments through the production of model legislation, the full text of which you fail to disclose to the public. If our government is to be for the people, they deserve access to the full content of public policy discussion. We call upon you to make the full text of your model legislation freely available to the public.

Finally, there has not been full disclosure of cases in which your model legislation is entered into bills under consideration by state legislatures. We ask you to call upon your members to make full disclosure of the source of the text they enter into consideration when your model legislation is called upon in the writing of state legislative bills.

We will likely never agree on the content of the policies that you promote. However, it is our sincere hope that we can bring you to accept a code of conduct for your organization that accords with our democratic system of government.

Sincerely,

ALEC Protest Team
Cincinnati, Ohio
contact@protestalec.org