

FedEx Shareholder Meeting
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My name is David Almasi, and I am representing The National Center for Public Policy Research — a research and education foundation located in Washington, D.C.

I'd like to address FedEx's continuing relationship with the American Legislative Exchange Council, or ALEC.

Good for you! And good for your shareholders, employees, customers and vendors!

There is probably some leftist political activist in this room right now chomping at the bit, waiting for their chance to demand that FedEx sever its ties to ALEC like so many other companies have in the past few months. They will likely base this demand on ALEC's work on the voter ID issue or "stand your ground" laws and falsely claim that our company is racist.

But let's get past the fact that ALEC stopped working on those issues back in April. In fact, my organization took up the voter ID issue where ALEC left off, and I'd be happy to talk to you about this commonsense protection and it's overwhelming public support after regular business is over today.

I'm sure FedEx first affiliated with ALEC for the same reason so many other businesses are affiliated with ALEC — to support the group's mission of making government more business-friendly. I see online that a FedEx representative is part of ALEC's Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development Task Force, which "develops policies that enhance competitiveness, promote employment and economic prosperity, encourage innovation, and limit government regulation imposed upon business."

That committee has nothing to do with voting or citizen law enforcement, but certainly enhances and facilitates the day-to-day operations of an international shipping company.

I am also quite sure that state-level legislative initiatives creating fairer tax policy, saner regulations and overall better business environments came from the relationship between FedEx and ALEC. As a FedEx shareholder and free market advocate, I appreciate relationships such as this when I see a dividend.

Thank you for keeping up your relationship with ALEC. Don't cave to the threats of the political left, because giving in on ALEC just opens up FedEx to a Pandora's box of further demands down the road.

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